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MICHELE LIPSON

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

### **SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

Adopted by the Plainedge Library Board of Trustees on October 17, 2022

The Library Board of Trustees, Administration and staff will support principles that ensure a resilient, sustainable community and Library for all of its residents. The Library is committed to a 'triple bottom line' definition of sustainability:

- Environmentally sound
- Economically Feasible
- Socially Equitable

The Library will examine its environmental impact locally and globally. The Library will evaluate and strive to establish sustainable purchasing procedures, building maintenance and Library programs. The Library will continue to develop and maintain community partnerships with our local schools, organizations, agencies and businesses. Environmentally sustainable thinking will be incorporated into the Library's day to day procedures.

The Library will strive to minimize pollution and waste, conserve energy and water, protect habitat, support renewable energy resources, buy environmentally-friendly products and encourage environmentally preferable transportation. These efforts will extend to contractor and supplier relationships.

The Library will maintain its compliance with all Federal, State and Local laws pertaining to air quality, water quality, and all other environmental legislation within the scope of their operations.

In terms of being economically feasible, the Library will pursue goals of energy efficiency that are beneficial not just for the environment but also for cost savings of the Library. As a sustainable library, the Plainedge Public Library is committed to utilizing public funds invested in our organization in fiscally responsible ways. This will be reflected in our fiscal policies.

Employee understanding and involvement are essential to the implementation of this policy. All employees will receive a copy of this policy upon hire. Administration and the Board of Trustees encourage Library staff to be proactive and apply sustainable thinking in the areas of their facilities, operations, policy, technology, programming and partnerships. All employees will receive a copy of this policy and will be educated about and participate in the Library's efforts to strive towards the "triple bottom line" definition of sustainability: using practices that are *environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially equitable*.