

Proposal for a Mini Boutique Library at the Hunt Club – Riverside Park Community Centre

March 22, 2023

As an interim measure to our goal of a store-front library branch in the Hunt Club Centre, we are proposing a mini boutique library within the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre (HC-RPCC).

The plan is to replace the existing kiosks and lockers with old-school bookcases placed on the same footprint as the machines. This will make available hundreds more books to Hunt Club-Riverside Park residents than are currently available through the kiosks; still far fewer than a library, but more than we currently have.

The vision is as follows:

- The existing kiosks and lockers are outdated and temperamental. Rather than spending money to update or repair them, and in advance of having to do something on an emergency basis due to a breakdown, we suggest removing them and installing bookcases and a self-checkout scanner as a proactive measure.
- A transition from the existing kiosk and locker system to bookcases could be accomplished quickly and with no construction.
- We picture accordion gates around the bookcases, to be closed when library hours are over.
- Because of the small size of the mini-library, we picture a regular circulation of the books offered, with additional space for the newly released books and DVDs, such as are currently provided in the kiosks.
- The mini library and any OPL programs offered at HC-RPCC should be advertised by the OPL on its website (this is critical), the HCCA and RPCA and in the Councillor's newsletter.
- It is anticipated that the proposed mini library bookcase model will attract more users than the kiosks, due to the increased selection of books offered and ease of access. Also, people who have had a bad experience with the kiosks and lockers in the past may be enticed back.