

October 25, 2021

Dear Board of Trustees, ImagineIf Libraries of Flathead County,

Soon you will be choosing a new library director for our beloved library system; one that needs much care and is not to be decided upon lightly.

When the board of trustees for the Flathead County Library system chose a new director in 2004, a promise was made that the community would see a new main library in five years. Five years came and went and the county commissioners were not helpful in cooperating with the library in seeing that occur. That director lasted for almost fifteen years. Still, no new library.

Our last library director was groomed extensively by her predecessor for many years and was well prepared to take on duties as the head of the library system. Still, no new library.

The current interim library director had a scant two years of experience as assistant director before the resignation of the director. Not enough time to be groomed for the directorship position. Still, no new library.

One question the board needs to ask themselves...do you want to remain as a "director strong" library board, or shall you get some confidence in yourselves and become a "board of trustees strong" library board? You may find that the county commissioners may start listening to you if you demonstrate your strength!

The current interim library director would make a great director for this library after she's had a few years of management 'seasoning'. Having been in the Flathead for fifteen years or so she has had the opportunity to make lots of friends. Friends don't always make for great leaders and you need a strong leader who can take this library forward into a new house with an equally strong library board.

Choose an outside candidate with years of strong leadership experience that can compliment your actions. The rest will fall into place. Get the new library built!

Thank you,

Library Customers and Former Staff