
TOWN OF GROTON DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

March 4, 2021

Groton Public Library
Board of Trustees
Groton Public Library
99 Main Street,
Groton MA 01450

Dear Trustees,

The Town of Groton Diversity Task Force was created by the Select Board in July 2020 to evaluate town policies to ensure that they do not pose a barrier to diversity, equity and inclusion. Library staff have made the task force aware that the library policy of charging late fees for overdue items does in fact create a barrier to access and use of the library.

The American Library Association Resolution on Monetary Library Fines as a Form of Social Inequity (adopted January 28, 2019) states that:

1. the imposition of monetary library fines creates a barrier to the provision of library and information services
2. urges libraries to scrutinize their practices of imposing fines on library patrons and actively move towards eliminating them; and
3. urges governing bodies of libraries to strengthen funding support for libraries so they are not dependent on monetary fines as a necessary source of revenue.

In the light of this resolution and as the goal of the Diversity Task Force is to promote more inclusive, equitable and diverse town policies, we urge the Library Trustees to review their fine policy and work towards the elimination of these fees.

Sincerely,



**Town of Groton
Diversity Task Force**