As collected on Nov. 4 as well as through post-it notes in the library between 11-4 & 11-18

Community Meeting #3 Ashland Branch Library 1 – 3 p.m. 10/20/15 and Community Meeting #14 Ashland Branch Library 5 – 7 p.m. 11/2/15

At the Ashland community meetings 38 members from the community participated, District Board Members Jill Turner and Maureen Swift participated and JCLS staff members Tammy Westergard, Esther Mortensen, Leigh Byerlee, and Denise Wilson also attended to facilitate the meeting. Special thanks to Branch Manager Amy Blossom for her attendance, welcome, advanced preparation and marketing for the meeting. What follows are the 35 data points as collected through the meeting as well as via post-it notes on a visual display at the library inviting patron feedback from folks who were not able to make the meeting.

Discussion regarding the idea of libraries equaling education:
Instruction in computer classes
Web wayfinding
Bilingual

Opportunities to provide additional support for people continuing a self-directed learning journey?
Check out devices
Gathering at the library – learning is transferred informally
Devices need to be available

Opportunities to enhance programs keeping in mind trends connected to:
Technology
Helping people be digitally literate
Digital tech van to expose everyone to tech tools – including seniors
Support “tinkering” with teens
ILL – tutorials, online tips to conduct searches in plain language

Economy
Business classes – synergies
Business development coaching – market study

Social connections
Programs to preserve classic arts and crafting
Taking the library show on the road – embedded librarianship
OLLI support/leverage
Quality out of school time programs

Opportunities to enhance ways people find information and or conduct research?
Spanish resources – face out display and better merchandising
Library as a mentor to model
Reference books!
Resume support
Entrepreneurial support
Understanding business regulations
Research labs – patents
Journals/industry associations

Other
Other:
LSSI has partnered with communities such as the Jackson County Library System and from their website “define their libraries’ policies, priorities, and direction; LSSI operates the libraries within this local framework, while centralizing and lowering the cost of overhead functions such as human resources, accounting, and technology. My concern is directed to technology, but I am unclear how input is received and acted upon. Specifically, upon opening the JCLS website, the most immediate attention grabber is the large opening image: Discover and Dream: Design the Destiny of Your Library! Unaware of the revolving picture feature, I made an attempt to otherwise locate the 6-month Calendar to Basic Computer Classes that JCLS offers. The major headings on the opening page included (Books & More, Research, Programs & Events, Your Libraries, as well as Hours & Locations) yet did not include the computer classes within the drop-down menus though I felt it could certainly have been included with the Program and Events drop-down menu. Further, because I did not take note that the opening webpage image rotates every 6 seconds, I therefore did not locate the Computer page (I wonder if others have found this to be true as well?). Having participated in these Basic Computer classes from time to time, I have found that they are providing an extraordinary service to the community due to the bequest of the Kenneth and Lucille Hulburt Family Trust. Further, Bob, the lead teacher and Gloria, equally knowledgeable and bilingual in Spanish, are superb in bringing their talents to those in attendance. So what is my concern: that there is more visibility of these computer classes on the opening website page in Spanish. Further, bilingual consideration could desirably be given to Programs and Events as well. The same could also be included in the Ashland Daily Tidings as it heralds weekly the activities from Wobblers, etc. up through P-K yet only in English. Possibly Latino publications might be interested as well. In an effort to bring more inclusivity to various ethnic groups it might be of interest to contact specific organizations that could assist with this suggestion though this will take resources, time and outreach. Outreach could be further expanded to Storytime facilitated with a Spanish interpreter and a sign language interpreter (and perhaps in the future hiring a Spanish speaking librarian) as well. Certainly this would address funding however it may be something to consider in the future for a more inclusive library experience within Jackson County.

Focus on local synergies of what’s around the library
Teens need to be drawn to a sense of place that is appealing to them
Library is community gathering place
ADA issues
Bar on roof!
Coffee shop!
Transportation issues!
Should the library move to the people?
Parking
Marketing