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Date: August 12, 2019
To: Rapid City Public Library Board
From: Pat Jones, Policy Committee Chair
Re: Unattended Children Policy

Date: August 5, 2019
To: Pat Jones, Policy Committee Chair
From: Sean Minkel, Assistant Director
Re: Unattended Children Policy

Motion: Move to approve updates to the Unattended Children policy as presented.

Background: The Unattended Children policy describes the expectations and guidelines for use of the library by children with emphasis on the responsibilities of caregivers and actions to be taken by library staff in the event of unattended children.

The significant changes to the policy are the removal of a sentence referring to loss of services as well as a change allowing for more latitude when staff call for rides at or near closing. The Behavior policy already addresses loss of services for failing to adhere to library policies. In practice, staff do not check to see if children are younger than 12 before calling for a ride as safety is the primary concern when any child is unattended. Staff routinely speak with unattended children at either library location as needed.

The remaining updates are intended to clarify language.