



July 19, 2013

Dear Mayor Merkes and City of Menasha Alderman:

I have good news! The library has received a grant from the Menasha Corporation Foundation for \$6,610 to install a hearing loop in the library's main meeting room – the Company E Room. Building Supervisor Adam Alix is working out the details of its installation right now.

A hearing loop is a wire that circles an area (under flooring or above ceiling tiles) and is connected to a sound system. The loop transmits sound electromagnetically to a wireless receiver called a T-coil in a person's hearing aid or cochlear implant.

Hearing loops help people overcome the listening challenges of distance from the speaker, eliminating background noise. All cochlear implants and most hearing aids have a built-in wireless receiver called a telecoil (T-coil). To use a hearing loop, people with a hearing device turn on the T-coil by pushing a button on their hearing device.

More than 4,000 adults and 14,000 children attended programs at the Elisha D. Smith Public Library during 2012. A small number of those children probably have cochlear implants, and a growing number of adults wear hearing aids. The library's main meeting room will soon have a hearing loop to improve those people's ability to hear during library programs.

I will send out a press release after the loop is installed, so our patrons with those special needs know that they can come to the library and take advantage of this technology.

Best regards,

Vicki Lenz  
Director