

Brevard County Library Services 308 Forrest Avenue Cocoa, Florida 32922 (321) 633-1801

TO: James Liesenfelt, Assistant County Manager

FROM: Wendi Bost, Library Services Director

SUBJ: Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation #2025015

CEER #2025015, titled Satellite Beach Public Library Board Reinstatement, was received by the County from Arlin E. Massey.

Citizen Statement:

Several years ago, most Brevard County libraries had a Library Board each vice the current setup of three library boards for all the 17 libraries. The boards were, as I understand as a member of the board, a tool to provide support information, ideas, advice, etc to each branch from its local community. Isn't time to turn this policy around?

As it seems, a major part of this change was to simply eliminate library manpower from attendance to the board. This manpower loss amounted to the library director or their representative from attending a meeting four of five times a year.

Citizen Recommendation:

Return to individual Librart Boards for each library.

Staff Analysis:

In May 2022, the Board of County Commissioners consolidated the various Library Boards with a final configuration of three Boards: (1) the County Library System Advisory Board, (2) the North Brevard Library Advisory Board, and (3) the South/Central Brevard Public Library Advisory Board. The two regional Library Boards were consolidated to increase efficiency and facilitate communication by combining seven individual Library Boards into two regional Boards. The three Boards have a combined 29 members. All municipalities have elected to dissolve their boards, except the City of Satellite Beach. There is one member from the City of Satellite Beach Library Advisory Board on the South/Central Public Library Advisory Board.

In addition to the three Library Advisory Boards, there are 11 Friends of the Library groups, all volunteer-operated at 11 libraries, that provide feedback to the libraries and contribute over \$150,000 to them.

With the two regional advisory boards and the system board, the Library Services Department Director and other Administration staff have been able to attend all Library Board meetings,

which was impossible under the previous structure of Library Advisory Boards. The current advisory board structure has allowed the Boards to learn about the library as a system and are provided with current information, facts, and data. At all meetings, suggestions and feedback are welcome from the public and Board Members.

Staff Recommended Action:

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners reject Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation CEER #2025015 as it does not enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of County Government as required by the Home Rule Charter.

c.c. Frank Abbate, County Manager

Horst, Rachel

From: CEER@brevardfl.gov

Sent: Wednesday, January 8, 2025 10:43 AM

To: Horst, Rachel

Subject: A new CEER Recommendation has been submitted as ID #2026015

Recommendation # 2026015

Dear CEER Administrator,

Speak Up Brevard Recommendation ID #2026015 has been submitted. Please login to the CEER Application to start the recommendation evaluation workflow.

Contact Information:

Group/Organization

Name Arlin E Massey

Address 225 Shore Lane, INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH FL 32937

Phone (321) 412-3234

Email amassey1@cfl.rr.com

Alternate Email amassey1@cfl.rr.com

Recommendation Information:

Recommendation ID 2026015

Recommendation Title Satellite Beach Public Library Board Reinstatement

Areas Affected

Department Affected

Current problem Several years ago, most Brevard County libraries had a Library Board each vice the

current setup of three library boards for all the 17 libraries. The boards were, as I understand as a member of a board, a tool to provide support information, ideas, advice, etc to each branch from its local community. Isn't time to turn this policy around? As it seems, a major part of this change was to simply eliminate library manpower from attendance to the board. This manpower loss amounted to the library director or their representative from attending a meeting four or five times a year.

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