

May 7, 2013 - Regular Meeting  
Agenda Item #10

Subject

Library Innovation Award

Briefings

None

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Cheri Coryea, Director, Neighborhood Services Department

941-749-3029 Ext. 3468

Action Requested

Recognition by the Board of County Commissioners for Library Innovation Award recently received by Manatee County Library System from The Florida Library Association.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

Background Discussion

- The Library Innovation Award from the Florida Library Association is given to a Florida library system that has displayed innovative methods, projects, and organizational enhancements. Important criteria include that these be groundbreaking innovations, of significant benefit to employees, library patrons and operations, and the community-at-large and that they can be replicated by other public libraries.
- Under the leadership of Library Services Manager, Ava Ehde, and Neighborhood Services Department Director, Cheri Coryea, Library staff has worked diligently to become an exceptional team, to provide enhanced services to our patrons, to help the community fill areas of need, and to serve other County departments.
- The Library staff has gathered a great deal of data via surveys, focus groups, and town hall meetings over the last two years and as a result have determined our community priorities and decided to direct efforts at serving these needs and focus efforts on the most effective programs. One of the most productive methods used to engage staff is to learn more about their unique experiences and skill sets to focus energies accordingly. Grants and internship committees are two excellent examples of these combined talents.
- Some of the things Library staff have done in the past year that helped win this award are Fine Forgiveness Week (7 tons of patron donations in lieu of fines waived were given to HOPE Family Services, Manatee County Animal Services, and the Bill Galvano One Stop Center), a monthly Job Resources program that connects the unemployed to local resources, the Geek the Library awareness campaign and other advocacy efforts, a unique team-building In-Service Day, extensive staff training

with eReaders and eBooks to better equip staff to help the community with their technology needs, annual Mana-Con teen comic convention, Poetry Slam @ArtSlam at the Riverwalk, Mana-Tweens Book and Culture Clubs, satellite Nook Libraries, art and essay contests to engage the community, health programming partnered with local health organizations, increased social media presence and marketing, building community partnerships, and much more.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

N/A

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

N/A

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

N/A



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Blumberg No. 5137  
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Favorable  
FOOD PANTRY  
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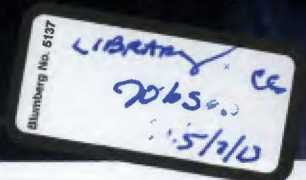


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# Manatee County Public Library System



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