

**Library Advisory Committee  
February 21, 2013  
Administrative Complex Board Meeting Room**

The Library Advisory Committee met on the above date with the following members present: Michael Sandler, Martha Lyle and Bill DuBois. Also present were Gwen Wilson (Library Director), DeVann Cook, (Human Resources Director), Hunter Walker (County Administrator) and Kathy Jordan. Michael Sandler called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

The minutes of the August 16, 2012 meeting were approved.

**Discussion of Library Access Policies**

Mr. Walker distributed copies of an outline for proposed changes to the Santa Rosa County Library Borrowing Policy for Pensacola Beach residents (see attached) and he noted that when SRC first separated from West Florida Regional Library System, Escambia County decided to charge Santa Rosa County residents a \$50 per year fee to use the library system. Santa Rosa County decided at that time not to charge a fee to anyone to use the Santa Rosa County library system. The thought was that we were trying to provide a service to anyone using the library system but through the years it was noted that there was a disproportionate share of losses of materials by out of county residents. It was decided that it was unfair for Santa Rosa County citizens to subsidize the poor habits of out of county library users and the Board of County Commissioners implemented a policy charging out of county residents a fee with the exception of Navarre Beach condo residents who rent from Santa Rosa County property owners. A request has been made to change our policy for Pensacola Beach residents who use Santa Rosa County libraries. Mr. Walker noted that Escambia County has not shown an interest in a reciprocal policy for Santa Rosa County residents to use the West Florida Regional libraries. He noted that the only residents of Santa Rosa County that he receives complaints from are the residents Santa Rosa County who utilize the system in Escambia County and have to pay a fee. He recommended that no change be made until there is a reciprocal policy with Escambia County. Mr. Walker also noted that our libraries manage the materials that are loaned out better and does not think that we will be in the position we were before but also noted that our resources are not growing. Ms. Wilson said that one change made last year was to allow Pensacola Beach residents who are students in Santa Rosa County schools to use our libraries and currently there are no issues with outstanding bills or loss of material. It is also noted that Pensacola Beach residents use Santa Rosa County library after school programs. She noted that her recommendation is only for Pensacola Beach residents. Mr. Sandler noted that Pensacola Beach is serviced by the Gulf Breeze Post Office and may be an easy way to identify those library users. Amy McDonald, Gulf Breeze Library Manager, stated that Pensacola Beach residents may not be residents of Santa Rosa County but they do spend money in Santa Rosa County and they do contribute as Library Friends. Ms. Lyle noted that we do have a responsibility to the County for the funding but does want to make libraries available to everyone and the Pensacola Beach residents have to go through Santa Rosa County to get to an Escambia County library. Mr. DuBois stated that he likes for Santa Rosa County to be the good guy but would like to know what the loss rate is for Gulf Breeze compared to the other libraries in the county. He stated that he agrees with Mr. Walker that there should be a reciprocal policy with Escambia County. After further discussion by the committee members, a motion was made by Ms. Lyle to recommend to the County Commission that the Library Policy be changed as recommended by library staff. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sandler and approved by a two to one vote with Mr. Dubose opposed.

**Director's Report**

Ms. Wilson presented a written report highlighting library use statistics, Friends of the Library contributions and county funded additions. (See attached spreadsheet.) She also reported that the library computers are currently being replaced with Thin Clients by the County Computer Department. This process is in the final stages and should be completed in a couple of weeks.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at the Navarre Library.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.