

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Howard Tipton, Town Manager
FROM: Carolyn Brown, Support Services Director
REPORT DATE: May 22, 2024
MEETING DATE: June 3, 2024
SUBJECT: Sarasota County Library on Longboat Key Update

Recommended Action

None. Update on items related to the Sarasota County Library for Longboat Key.

Background

Sarasota County and the Town are collaborating on the construction of a 10,000-square-foot library at Town Center Green. Two meetings were held to gather public input. Since the conclusion of the second held on March 18, 2024, County staff has been working with the architect, Borrelli & Partners on final design concepts, and with Jon F. Swift Construction on initial cost estimates associated with building the core library, enhanced meeting room and outdoor terrace.

Additionally, on May 22, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Named Giving Guidelines for Libraries and Historical Resources. These new guidelines will provide the framework for naming Sarasota County Libraries including the planned library for Longboat Key. The document also offers guidance for naming smaller spaces within the facility and for programming.

Design

After many iterations and in consultation with County staff, Borrelli & Partners produced the core and enhance library renderings. These are included as Attachment A to this memo. The core library includes a lobby, collections area, technology, reading room and meeting rooms.

The enhanced library additions include a community wing-meeting room that will accommodate up to 200 individuals as well as a covered exterior terrace which will create a central gathering spot for library users and visitors to the Town Center Green.

Costs

Sarasota County is reviewing the initial cost estimates for the proposed library. Further review and vetting of the figures are needed.

Named Giving Guidelines for Libraries and Historical Resources

While the County Code of Ordinances includes Section 2-2 providing general processes for naming selection of County owned property and facilities, there was a desire to for more specific guidelines for recognizing gifts and pledge commitments that include formal naming recognition for facilities, rooms, spaces, programs or services. The Board of County Commissioners approved Sarasota County Libraries Named Giving Guidelines on May 22, 2024 (Attachment B).

The Guidelines for naming Entirely New Facilities are outlined below:

The minimum amount to name a newly constructed facility is 25% of the estimated project cost. Newly constructed facilities may also be named for donor

contributions that equal 50% of the fundraising goal associated with the project. Naming is generally granted for the useful life of the facility unless otherwise specified in the gift agreement. The name on a facility or other space to be demolished will not be transferred to a new facility.

Donation Tiers – Longboat Key Library

Sarasota County Libraries is also finalizing Donation Tiers and Giving Levels. At this time they anticipate a graduated methodology offering the opportunity to name the building at the highest level, to providing funding for smaller spaces and programs at the lesser levels.

Fundraising for Longboat Key Library

Sarasota County will be determining the minimum fundraising goal for the Longboat Key Library. Further information will be forthcoming as to the minimum needed based on the finalization of the total initial cost estimates.

Currently, there are no other local government buildings on the barrier island that bear a donor's name. The Longboat Key Library will present an exceptional and reasonably priced opportunity for a donor to create a lasting legacy (as compared to other local naming opportunities). The highest level naming donation will benefit the community by providing a space where residents and visitors can meet their neighbors, learn new skills, participate in educational workshops, and enjoy the quality of life that makes Longboat Key a premier community.

Next Steps

Finalization of cost estimates and fundraising materials. The Town and Sarasota County will work collaboratively to identify potentially interested naming donors.

Staff Recommendation

None, informational only.

Attachments (Available in the Town Clerk's Office)

- A. Draft Renderings
- B. Naming Giving Guidelines for Libraries and Historical Resources

End of Agenda Item