MINUTES
LAW LIBRARY ADVISORS’ MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2017

Pursuant to notice duly given, the James J. Lunsford Law Library Advisors ("Advisors") met on Wednesday, January 19, 2017, at 12:00 noon, in the Law Library conference room at 701 E. Twiggs Street. The Advisors present were James Schmidt, Esq. Judge Christopher Nash and Susan Johnson Velez. Susan Miles Whitaker was unable to attend due to a conflict and sent her regrets. Also in attendance were Paul Johnson, Esq. (representing the County Attorney’s office), Jackie Zebos, Margaret Rials and Norma Wise.

Mr. Schmidt, as Chair, opened the meeting at 12:07pm and followed the set agenda previously noticed. The Minutes of the meeting of the Law Library Advisors, dated June 22, 2016, was discussed and the Advisors had no comments or changes to the Minutes as presented. A motion was made by Susan Johnson Velez, Esq., seconded by Judge Nash and approved to accept the Minutes of the October 28, 2015, Law Library Advisors’ meeting with no changes, additions or deletions. Also, the Minutes of the meeting of the Law Library Advisors, dated October 26, 2016, was discussed. Upon a Motion by Judge Nash, seconded by Susan Johnson Velez, and approved. It was

RESOLVED: To request Mrs. Wise to clarify on the Minutes for October 26, 2016, that there was no quorum, and no action was taken. The "Minutes" are for reference purposes of what was discussed only.

There were no other comments or changes to the Minutes of 10/26/16 as presented.

Law Library Manager’s Report

Norma Wise presented the Manager’s Report updating the Advisors on comparison of December 2015 to December 2016. Norma explained that all statistics have shown a marked increase in the past two years, and staff is not sure how long this sustained growth can continue.

Old Business

How to better partner with the Hillsborough County Bar Association (HCBA)

Mrs. Wise explained some prior history of the history of the relationship between the HCBA and the Law Library. She requested the Advisors' help in trying to rebuilding a good working relationship with the HCBA and working towards promoting each others’ activities and services. Susan Johnson Velez volunteered to speak with the HCBA and work on setting up a meeting with the Director of the HCBA, Margaret Rials, Norma Wise and herself as a good starting point. Judge Nash and James Schmidt both made suggestions regarding getting on the agenda of one or more of the HCBA’s upcoming meetings. Perhaps the full HCBA and/or a Section Leaders’ group. Susan Johnson will let staff know what she was able to arrange for an initial meeting.
Minutes of the Law Library Advisors’ Meeting
January 19, 2017
Page 2

Open House

Staff noted that with the Advisors’ not being quite as involved as they were during the start-up of the Law Library Advisors and the transition to the Public Library system, that the Advisors may want to get more involved in the events being put on by staff. James Schmidt volunteered to help with the planning of the Open House. Judge Nash also requested to be informed of any Open House planning meetings and he will attend if his schedule permits.

New Business

Election of Chairperson for 2017

James Schmidt was nominated to be Chair for 2017 by Judge Nash. The nomination was seconded by Susan Johnson Velez, and with no opposition Mr. Schmidt was elected Chair for 2017. Advisors and staff commended Mr. Schmidt on the work he has done on behalf of the Law Library and the Advisors.

FY17 Budget

Approval was requested by staff to spend up to the law library budget limits without having to have the Advisors’ approval on every purchase, as it has done for the past two years. Upon a motion by Judge Nash and Seconded by Susan Johnson Velez, and no opposition, it was

RESOLVED: To give staff the authority to spend up to the budget allowance for FY17 without requiring the Advisors’ approval of individual purchases. Staff will work closely with HCPLC”s budget staff and other Library staff, as required.

Other New Business

A discussion was held concerning the difficulties in getting a quorum of three with only four Advisors’. The Advisors also commented they have been working under County Ordinance 14-27 for over two years now, and it may be time to review the Ordinance as to what is and is not working well. Upon a Motion by Judge Nash and Seconded by Susan Johnson Velez, it was

RESOLVED: To request the assistance of the County Attorney’s office to amend Ordinance 14-27 for purposes of, including but not limited to, increasing the number of Advisors from four to five. Requesting the fifth member to be a member or designee of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library Advisory Board.
The Advisors requested Mrs. Wise to send them each a copy of County Ordinance 14-27 for their review. Comments made by the Advisors would be sent back to Mrs. Wise for the County Attorney's Office review and possible amendment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55pm.

The February 22, 2017 meeting will not be held. Therefore, the next scheduled meeting of the Law Library Advisors will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 12pm in the Law Library's conference room.

Norma J. Wise
Ex Officio Secretary to the Law Library Advisors