



Lake Wales Public Library Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy

The Lake Wales Public Library subscribes to the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, which states in part, that "Books and other library resources shall be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials shall not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation." The Library Bill of Rights continues by saying that "Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval." It is the Lake Wales Public Library's responsibility to provide resources on many subjects, from multiple viewpoints, appealing to the public's diverse interests and tastes.

If a patron wishes the Library to reconsider the purchase of a particular item the patron must complete and sign the *Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials* form. When the Library Director receives the form they will present the request to the Lake Wales Library Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Library Board will appoint a committee to review the item(s) listed on the Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials form. The review committee should include at least one professional librarian from the Lake Wales Public Library's staff, the Library Director and at least two Library Board members. The committee will examine the item in its entirety, taking into consideration the original reason for purchase, and evaluate the item in light of the Library's selection policy, the Library Bill of Rights, and the item's critical reception. After the item has been thoroughly and objectively reviewed, taking into consideration the complainant's objections, the committee will respond in writing.

If the complainant wishes to appeal the decision of the staff committee he or she may do so to the Lake Wales Library Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting after the decision has been rendered. The appeal must be submitted in writing, no less than 48 hours prior to the Library Board meeting. The complainant will be given the opportunity to state his or her case to the full Library Board, who will take the information under advice.

The Board Chairman will then appoint an ad hoc committee of three Library Board members and the Library Director to examine the item in question. The ad hoc committee will review the item and make a recommendation to the full Library Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The decision of the Library Board is final.

Approved by the Lake Wales Library Board.

