



## Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Headquarters – Ocala Public Library

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To: Mounir Bouyounes, County Administrator  
Through: Amanda Tart, Assistant County Administrator  
From: Julia H. Sieg, Library Director *JHS*  
Re: Facilities Naming Process and Recommendation  
Date: May 6, 2025

Marion County Commission Policy 24-06, *Naming and Renaming of County Properties*, (Attachment 1) was utilized for the purpose of short-listing names for Commission consideration and selection for the new library which will be in the renovated youth activities building on the MSTU Silver Spring Shores property. Per the policy, this memo of recommendation takes us through #7 of the process.

Name suggestions were solicited via Facebook posts, outreach events and a promotional flier in each of our libraries as well as the Silver Spring Shores community center. This resulted in almost 300 suggested names for consideration. (Attachment 3)

The ad hoc Facilities Naming Committee met May 1, 2025 to discuss the names submitted as well as consider any other names, as appropriate. Committee members included:

1. Craig Curry - County Commissioner
2. Amanda Tart - County Administration
3. Julie Sieg - Public Library
4. Rebecca Long - Historical Commission
5. Stanley Saint-Louis - Community representative, Silver Spring Shores MSTU Board member

Following discussion, the committee is providing two names for consideration, in rank order. They include:

1. **Shores Public Library** – This name is more inclusive of an area beyond Silver Spring Shores boundaries. It recognizes that a future, expanded library may be outside the Silver Spring Shores boundaries. It creates a slight separation of the library from the MSTU structure and potentially reduces confusion as to what entity manages the library. Shores Public Library is a more succinct name while still giving a nod to the Silver Spring Shores area.
2. **Silver Spring Shores Public Library** - With the exception of Freedom Public Library and Sankofa Public Library, our libraries are named for the service area in which the library is situated - Forest, Ft. McCoy, Reddick, Belleview, Dunnellon, Headquarters-Ocala and Marion Oaks. Selection of Silver Spring Shores Public Library would be consistent with our past practice if there is assurance that a future library facility would be within these boundaries.

The Facilities Naming Committee also considered one of the names that received multiple submittals, John Gibbs Memorial Public Library. Mr. Gibbs was a language arts teacher at Lake Weir High School who died tragically in an automobile accident. Following discussion, the committee believes that a more fitting and appropriate tribute would be for the Marion County school system to possibly name the Lake Weir High School media center/library after Mr. Gibbs.

Please let me know if you would like additional information.