

March 4, 2023

City of Rehoboth Beach 229 Rehoboth Avenue Rehoboth Beach, DE. 19971

Subject: Rehoboth Beach Public Library

Dear Mayor Mills and Commissioners:

We are writing regarding the recent actions of the Rehoboth Beach Library Board of Trustees that will be discussed at Monday's Workshop meeting. The Board of Directors of the Rehoboth Beach Homeowners Association was very disappointed to learn about the decision of the Library Board of Trustees to move the Rehoboth Beach Library out of the city. We like many of the residents in Rehoboth Beach feel blindsided by this decision and believe the handling of this decision along with the communications with the Mayor, Commissioners and Rehoboth Beach's residents has been quite disingenuous.

We were dismayed to learn that the Library Board of Trustees has been considering this move for over three years without any thought of sitting down with City officials and its residents to discuss their future plans. At the very least, the Library Board of Trustees needs to sit down immediately with the Mayor and Commissioners to hammer out their plans for their move and to determine, most importantly what a "library presence" in the city will look like. The Commissioners should not commit to any future funding for the library until they have a clear understanding of the details for our city's smaller satellite library. In addition, any taxpayer funds provided to the library must be used exclusively for the library in Rehoboth.

As representatives of the homeowners in Rehoboth, we feel strongly that libraries play a vital role in communities and that the city and its residents need to be involved in this important decision before any further actions are taken. Therefore, we are requesting that the library immediately call for a public information session to discuss their plans and hear from citizens.

Respectfully,

Pam Baker President, RBHA

cc: Rehoboth Beach Public Library Friends of the Library

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