

Memorandum

Community Services



Date: May 23, 2016

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Barbara Roberts - Deputy Community Services Director - Library Services, x5237

Through: Shelley Hearn - Community Services Director, x8906
Steven Methvin, Deputy City Manager, x8811

Subject: **June 2, 2016 Work Study Session - Naming request for a new Library Literacy Center**

At the April 6, 2016 regular meeting of the History Museum and Library Advisory Board, consideration was given to a request to create a literacy center within the youth library at the Tempe Public Library with private funds and name the center after John A. Gannon. After discussion and questions to the lead donor, the Board unanimously recommended and approved the request as submitted.

John A. Gannon was a Library Specialist for over 30 years with the Tempe Library and who tragically passed away just days before his retirement in July, 2015. John worked in nearly every area of the Library during his career and was a favorite of adults and children. In his last years at the Library, John worked in the youth library and became one of the children's favorite story time leaders as "Mr. John".

The naming request is being submitted by Robert Lashua, John's life partner, on behalf of John's family, friends and colleagues and as a memorial to honor John's commitment to the Tempe Library and the children of Tempe.

Mr. Lashua has commitments for donations for the literacy center project and would begin formal acceptance of donations and commence with formal fundraising if the naming request is approved by Council.

Attachment:

Naming request; History Museum and Library Advisory Board Approved April 6, 2016 minutes