

3-24-2009

Mr. Tyree

Mary Schanning

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From "Schanning, Mary" <mschanning@ci.west-bend.wi.us> ▶  
Sent Tuesday, March 24, 2009 8:16 am  
To Michael Tyree <mtyree@west-bendlibrary.org>  
Subject FW: Mr. Tyree  
Attachments Kristin Pekoll.doc 25K TYREE MEETING.doc 23K

Michael,

We can meet anytime to discuss Mrs. M. My calendar is open all day. Stop by or call anytime.

*Mary Schanning  
City Attorney  
1115 S. Main Street  
West Bend, WI 53095  
Phone: (262) 335-5105  
Fax: (262) 306-3107  
Email: mschanning@ci.west-bend.wi.us*

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**From:** Junk, Mail  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 24, 2009 7:59 AM  
**To:** Schanning, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: Mr. Tyree

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**From:** Michael Tyree [mailto:mtyree@west-bendlibrary.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2009 7:16 PM  
**To:** Schanning, Mary  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mr. Tyree

Hi Mary,

Mrs. M. has misquoted me in the notes she took the evening that I met with her. That aside, may I speak with you sometime tomorrow about the topics that Mrs. M. has raised?

Thanks!

MT

Michael Tyree, Library Director  
West Bend Community Memorial Library  
630 Poplar Street  
West Bend, WI 53095  
Voice: 262-335-5151, ext. 125  
FAX: 262-335-5150

----- Original Message -----  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Mon, 23 Mar 2009 15:41:52 -0500  
**To:** "mtyree@west-bendlibrary.org" <mtyree@west-bendlibrary.org>  
**Subject:** Mr. Tyree

Mr. Tyree,

<https://wisemail.wisc.edu/print.html>

4/6/2009

We do not agree that there is confusion concerning our requests. Attorney Schanning asked us to clarify our position and we complied. We outlined for her the same issues we discussed in our meetings with both Kristin Pekoll, the YA Zone librarian, and yourself. (I have attached the meeting minutes.)

Our requests, as stated to Atty. Schanning, **continue to be:**

1. That the West Bend Public Library attain, at the very minimum, balance in the selections that the libraries carry on the homosexual issue in the YA Zone. There is no logical or common-sense reason why taxpayer-funded public libraries should make available every latest gay-affirming book, including those designed to open up young minds to the false and dangerous notion that homosexuality is normal, while not carrying any faith-based and/or ex-gay books that affirm traditional heterosexual perspectives and oppose a pro-homosexual ideology.

2. We further asked for the removal of any book in the youth section of our library, i.e., children's, young adult/YA Zone, that contains perverse and pornographic language, including those that graphically and explicitly depict sex acts. Two such books are "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" and "The Geography Club", which is neither about Geography or any school-related subject. We will further be requesting via formal request form that the book "Deal With It" by Esther Drill be removed for its GRAPHICALLY crude, explicit, pornographic written and pictorial content.

3. We requested that any youth web pages referring to topics of a sexual nature, i.e., Out of the Closet, be removed from the library website, or at the very least, become password-protected, only accessible with parental authority, such as the practice in place for use of the library computers. Upon meeting with Mr. Tyree, we suggested the web page name "Out of the Closet", which clearly promotes a pro-homosexual theme, be changed to a neutral category.

Though we told him we would prefer certain books be removed all together, we understand that the library has an obligation to give the broadest spectrum of information on any given subject; therefore, we are willing to agree to more information, not less. To resolve our complaint against the whole genre of books, the library staff and board can elect to remove them all from the library, re-classify them all and place them in an appropriate section, add additional books from differing perspectives and/or undertake a combination of those things. Our clarifications were a means of outlining what corrective steps might be appropriate short of removal. You have sought to turn this around into a withdrawal of the original request for removal, which it never was intended to be. Our complaint is not evolving; our discussion about how to remedy the problem are evolving during and following discussions with your staff. You are trying to use forms and procedures to put discussions into neat boxes for an up or down vote on individual items in the collection, attempting to leave no room for any "if x, then y" type complaint and precluding any consideration of the collection as a whole or as sub-groups. For instance, according to your own policies, the collection as a whole should not amount to one-sided coverage of controversial topic. When it does, one can ask for removal of those portions of the collection but allow that the defect could be remedied in another fashion with the introduction of materials covering the other sides of the issue. To further clarify, as we told you in our face-to-face meeting, "removal" did not necessarily mean "ban." Reclassification and placement in the appropriate adult section of the library would be, at the very least, a satisfactory conclusion to our request for removal. Accordingly, the request for removal could be clarified that removal may not be necessary if the required balance is achieved in another way consistent with your own policy. The issue has been fully aired and is ripe for a decision by the whole Library Board.