



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 21-267A, Version: 1

Subject:

Honorary and Philanthropic Naming Rights Policy.

Recommended Action:

Provide direction to staff on the Honorary and Philanthropic Naming Rights Policy and whether to consider renaming requests recently received.

- On December 3, 2020 the County received a letter from the Fred G. Minnis, Sr. Bar Association requesting that we honor the “life, legacy and impact of Attorney Fred G. Minnis, Sr. by naming a Pinellas County Courthouse or the Pinellas County Law Library in his honor.”
- On January 6, 2021 the County received a letter from the Honorable Chris Sprowls, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, requesting that we rename the Pinellas County Justice Center “after our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.”
- The Commission discussed these items at the February 9, 2021 Board of County Commissioners meeting and decided to further assess these requests and the policy at the March 4, 2021 work session.
- The outcomes from the work session will be discussed and staff will be provided direction on potential changes to the policy and the renaming requests received.

Strategic Plan:

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public’s resources

Summary:

On December 3, 2020 the County received a letter from the Fred G. Minnis, Sr. Bar Association requesting that we honor the “life, legacy and impact of Attorney Fred G. Minnis, Sr. by naming a Pinellas County Courthouse or the Pinellas County Law Library in his honor.” On January 6, 2021 the County received a letter from the Honorable Chris Sprowls, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives requesting that we rename the Pinellas County Justice Center “after our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.” County administration has reviewed the submitted letters and found them in compliance with the honorary naming rights policy and therefore submitted them to the County Commission for consideration. The Board of County Commissioners discussed the requests at the February 9, 2021 meeting and continued the conversation at the March 4, 2021 work session.

Background Information:

The County’s “Honorary and Philanthropic Naming Rights Policy” provides the process for renaming requests.

Section III.(B) requires that a proposal that is in compliance “shall be scheduled for County Commission consideration.”

If a majority of the County Commission approves the nominations for consideration, a naming rights committee will be established to consider the nomination, according to the policy.

The Committee will complete the review process within 90 days, including at least one public meeting to solicit community input, and report its recommendations to the County Commission.

If the County Commission decides to approve the naming, they will do so by resolution.

Fiscal Impact:

Until a decision has been made on a potential renaming, there are only administrative efforts associated with supporting a naming rights committee.

Staff Member Responsible:

Andrew Pupke, Division Director, Facilities and Real Property Division

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

Letter from the Fred G. Minnis, Sr. Bar Association
Letter from Speaker Sprowls, Florida House of Representatives
Honorary and Philanthropic Naming Rights Policy