

Request for Reconsideration

The Patrick Heath Public Library believes in the freedom of information for all and that the freedom to read is essential to our democracy, and therefore will not restrict a user's right to read, listen to, or view materials. The library strives to provide access to a wide range of materials and programming representing varying points of view, without promoting a single perspective. The library subscribes to the principles adopted by the American Library Association (ALA) in its "Library Bill of Rights", "The Freedom to Read Statement", "The Freedom to View Statement", and "Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors".

The library recognizes that patrons may take issue with specific library materials, displays, or programming they find offensive or inappropriate. Should a patron feel that an item or program should be removed or reclassified, the following steps may be taken, though we encourage the public to first discuss their concern with a library staff member.

1. The patron should complete a "Request for Reconsideration" form in full giving the nature of the complaint and justification for the change. The completed form will go to the Library Director and the librarian responsible for the development of the collection, display, or program.
2. Staff will evaluate the material using reviews, criteria used to acquire the item or schedule the program, and any other relevant information or guidelines. A written response will be made by the Library Director within a reasonable timeframe of receiving the formal objection.
3. If the patron is not satisfied with the decision of the Library Director, the patron may request, in writing and within thirty (30) days of receiving the Library Director's written response, that the Library Advisory Board review the material. The patron should provide written arguments as to why the material in question should be removed or reclassified, or why the program or display should not be presented. A decision will be made by the Library Advisory Board at a regularly scheduled meeting, and once a decision has been rendered, the patron will receive written notification from the Library Advisory Board.
4. If the patron is not satisfied with the decision of the Library Advisory Board, they may pursue the matter with the Boerne City Manager, whose determination is final.
 - The material or display in question will remain in use until the completion of the reconsideration process.
 - Only residents of Kendall County may submit a "Request for Reconsideration" form.

- Requests for reconsideration about a particular item will not be considered by the library more than once within a 12-month period.

Attachment to Policy:

1. Request for Reconsideration (Form)

Initially adopted: October 13, 2022

PATRICK HEATH PUBLIC LIBRARY
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION*

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION INITIATED BY:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

MATERIAL:

Title: _____

Author/Producer: _____

PROGRAM:

Title: _____

EXHIBIT/DISPLAY:

Title/Theme: _____

1. Are you initiating this request for reconsideration on behalf of any group? If so, which group?
2. Explain why you object to this material/program/exhibit. Please cite specific pages and/or passages. Are your objections moral, political, religious, personal, or aesthetic?
3. What brought this material/program/exhibit to your attention?

4. Did you read/view the entire material/exhibit/program? (If not, which parts were read/viewed?)

5. What do you believe is the theme? Is there anything good about the material/program/exhibit?

6. For what age group would you recommend this material/program/exhibit?

7. What action are you requesting that the library consider?

8. What material/program/exhibit of equal quality would you recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization?

9. List any resources that can provide additional information related to your request.

** Entire form must be completed to be considered.*