— Who Was Richard C. Sullivan? —

Our library is officially the "Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors". So, who was Mr. Sullivan and why is the library named after him? It turns out the answer is not widely known. But thanks to research by the City Clerk's Office, a 2005 Sun-Sentinel article and interviews with legacy Library staff and Friends, here's what we know about this enigmatic gentleman:

Sullivan was born around 1921 and grew up in the Midwest. He graduated as valedictorian of his high school class, was awarded a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin and there received his BBA degree; then went on to American University in Washington D.C. for an MBA. In later years he often noted that his early academic successes were due to the love for learning he developed using the "Carnegie Library" in his town. (Steel magnate Andrew Carnegie funded/built some 1,800 public libraries in the U.S. between 1883 and 1929.)

After graduate school he began a career as a civil servant at the Federal level—serving in the Navy Department, Military Sea Transportation Agency and the Postmaster General Division. According to one source his work was related to mapping/cartography.



After retirement, he moved to Wilton Manors around 1972. There's no record of why he selected the city as his retirement home. (His attorney did later note that he was "estranged from his family"). His home was in the Coral Point subdivision and said to be "antique and art-filled". Sources variously describe Sullivan as "reserved", "...a very private person", "...not someone that was easy to get to know". His live-in caregiver for the last five years of his life noted "He was a humble man. He just liked education ... he really liked people to learn.".

Recalling the impact the "Carnegie Library" had on his childhood, Sullivan's first opportunity to also be a library benefactor came in 2003. Our library had been recently expanded, but there was no budget to open or furnish the new Children's Wing. Sullivan heard about a Friends of the Library fundraiser and offered a \$40,000 check (\$71,000 today), if the Children's Wing could be dedicated to his deceased long-time companion Robert Dittrich. It was gratefully accepted.

While Mr. Sullivan couldn't emulate Carnegie by building a library, he came close. The library expansion was funded by a \$350,000 bond issue. With his death in 2005, at the age of 84, came a surprise endowment in his will. His estate would pay off the remaining library bond debt of \$280,000 (\$450,000 today) if the City would rename the facility after him.

And thus, we recognize the philanthropic legacy of Richard C. Sullivan's support and love of libraries and learning.



WILTON MANORS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INTERVIEW NOTES RE: RICHARD (, SULLIVAN MINI-ARCHIVE

Notes from Mary Ulm phone interview with Marcia Ellington - Oct. 29, 2024

In the Fall of 2005, the City of Wilton Manors learned that upon the death of a long-time resident, Richard C. Sullivan, it had become the recipient of a \$280,000 bequest to benefit Wilton Manors Public Library. The bequest came with a provision -- name the library after Sullivan. But who was Sullivan? And how was he related to the library? Until his bequest, he was unknown to the leaders and staff at City Hall. He was not well-known by library staff either.

We contacted Marcia Ellington who had served as the Library Director from 1984 to 2003 to see if she could shed more light on Mr. Sullivan. She told the following story:

When the library was expanded in 2003, the City did not budget for furnishings for the Children's Wing. Thus, the Friends of the Library had launched a major fund-raising campaign to address the need for books and furnishings. Evidently, Richard Sullivan learned of the campaign. He called Marcia with the request that she come see him at his home without stating a reason. Marcia and a library staff member went to Mr. Sullivan's home. They sat in his living room and chatted for a time. Eventually Sullivan gave Marcia an envelope that contained a check to help with the Children's Wing. Without first opening the envelope, Marcia thanked him and returned to the library. To her amazement it contained a check for \$40,000.

In exchange for the donation, Mr. Sullivan wanted the Children's Wing dedicated to Robert Dittrich, his long-time companion who predeceased him. His name graces the South Wall of the Children's Section.

Ellington could not provide any additional details beyond the above. Even after the visit she could not say that she knew much about Sullivan. She did not recall ever seeing him in the library. Ellington suggested that we contact Wilton Manors Senior Librarian Cindy Extercamp as someone who might know more about Sullivan.

Notes from Mary Ulm phone interview with Cindy Extercamp

Extercamp recalled that Mr. Sullivan visited the library to use its copy machine and she helped him with operating the copier. He was not particularly out-going – not someone that was easy to get to know.

Extercamp explained that in addition to the recognition in the library for Mr. Dittrich, there is a small plaque on the wall near a small alcove within the Children's Wing. This plaque bears no relation to Sullivan. Rather, it was placed there by the Friends of the Library, because the family of John Kreitner donated funds in his memory for select furnishings in the library.

Notes from Ron Ulm phone interviews with Paul Kuta – December 2024/January 2025

Paul recalls that he was the person who accompanied Marcia Ellington to pick up the check for the Children's Wing. Paul was Friends of the Library Vice President and chair of the fundraising campaign.

He noted that the Sullivan home was in the Coral Point subdivision ... a nice home, but not on the water. He

agreed with the characterization of it being filled with antiques and art. At that first meeting Sullivan shared a brief biography with Paul and Marcia. Paul recalled him growing up in Pennsylvania, versus the "Midwest" of the Sun-Sentinel article. He then described the positive impact of the local Carnegie Library on his early educational development; and the importance of libraries for youth.

Paul's and Sullivan's adult careers somewhat paralleled. They were both career Federal civil servants headquartered in Washington D.C. Paul recalled Sullivan being involved with intelligence-related mapping/cartography. That's a bit different from what might be suggested from the agencies listed in the "Richard Sullivan Day" Resolution biography.

Paul recalls speaking with him on one or two other public occasions. He described him as "reserved". He confirmed that he rarely, if ever, saw him in the library. But that Sullivan reiterated the importance of the Carnegie Library in his life and libraries in general on more than one occasion.

When asked, Paul was comfortable characterizing Sullivan as a gay man.



Screenshot from www.friendsofthewiltonmanorslibrary.org, January 2025

HOME ABOUT US ▼ JOIN US ▼ EVENTS ▼ DONATIONS ▼ WILTON MANORS LIBRARY CONTACT US



November 3, 1998

Library Advisory Board Chair, Wayne Schotanus helped to place a \$350,000.00 bond to increase the size of the library on the ballot. He also was instrumental in securing a state grant for another \$300,000.00, which allowed the library to triple in size.



March 14, 2003

Grand Opening of present day Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors. \$120,000.00 in new furnishings were paid for by the Friends. Richard C. Sullivan also donated \$40,000.00 to complete the furnishing of the children's wing.



March, 2004

With the retirement of long-time Library Director Marcia Ellington, the Library becomes a division of the new Leisure Services Department which includes Parks and Recreation.



November, 2005

Richard C. Sullivan passes away and leaves a bequest of \$280,000.00 to pay off the remaining bond debt if the library bears his name.



May 9, 2006

City Commission approves renaming the Wilton Manors Public Library as the Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors.



December 8, 2007

50th Anniversary celebration of the Wilton Manors Public Library.

Clipped from Newspapers.com

Bequest pays off library's debt

Manors resident leaves money to cover city's \$270,000 balance

BY ROBERT NOLIN

wilton manors • No family or obituary marked the passing of Richard Sullivan on Sept. 30 at age 84. Except for a live-in assistant, and the medics who fetched his body, Sullivan's death went unno-

ticed.

Until his will was read.

Through a surprise endowment, the frugal old man who loved children and learning will save this city nearly \$300,000.

Sullivan, a coupon clipper who for decades lived a modest existence in a brick-front home on a quiet cul-de-sac, set aside money in his will to pay off the city's debt in expanding its library. He already had spent thousands for furnishings in the library's children's wing.

"It's a great gift to the city," said Commissioner Gary Resnick. "He was a big supporter of libraries and children."

It's also a gift to city taxpayers, who will see an average of about \$7 shaved off their bill this year because of Sullivan's generosity.

"He was a humble man. He just liked education. That's why he helped the library," said Elmer O. Villatoro, a 30-year-old waiter who lived with and assisted Sullivan, who was in poor health. "He really liked people to learn."

Sullivan's bequest will absolve the city of the debt remaining from a \$350,000 bond issue to pay for the major library expansion. Once

the probate process is concluded early next year, his endowment will cover an outstanding bill of almost \$270,000.

"It takes a large debt off the city," said Library Director Rick Sterling. "He was very interested in children in the community having access to the library."

This wasn't the first time Sullivan had come to the library's aid.

■ LIBRARY CONTINUES ON 2B



Sullivan

LIBRARY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

He had lived in Wilton Manors for more than three decades, and was just another unassuming retiree until 1998. That was when voters passed the library bond issue. But when it came to furnishing the new kids' wing, money had run out.

The library director at the time, Marcia Ellington, recalled how Sullivan summoned her to his antique and art-filled home, and handed her a check for \$40,000. The kids' room now bears Sullivan's name, and is dedicated to Robert Dittrich, the long-time companion who predeceased him.

Sullivan's history is veiled.

He was estranged from his family, said Chad Goff, attorney for his estate. Before moving to Wilton Manors he lived in Washington, D.C., and worked for the government, though no one can say what he did.

"He was a private person," Ellington said. "I don't know that anybody knew him real well."

About five years ago, Villatoro met the ailing Sullivan, who let him live rent-free in the three-bedroom home in exchange for his assistance. Villatoro, a student and aspiring musician, said the retiree loved to read, or watch the cooking and financial channels. He was also thrifty, and no coupons were too small to be clipped.

"He told me, 'The more I save, the more money the people are going to get when I die,' "recalled Villatoro, who was present when Sullivan passed away in his bed. "He died peacefully. He was happy."

The only condition for Sullivan's bequest is that the library be named after him. Resnick said it's a safe bet the City Commission will comply with a plaque—or more.

"I could see some type of artwork or something," the commissioner said. "Maybe him in heaven looking down and reading to children."

Robert Nolin can be reached at rnolin@sun-sentinel.com or 954-356-4525. 2025 Spring Town Crier newsletter

2002 Proclamation of "Richard Sullivan Day" for donation to the *Friends of the Library* for the Children's Wing of the Library (from Wilton Manors City Clerk's Office)

WHEREAS, Richard Sullivan grew up in a small college town in the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, Richard Sullivan was named valedictorian of his high school class, in large part due to the existence of a "Carnegie" Library and was awarded a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin where he received his BBA Degree; and

WHEREAS, Richard Sullivan continued his education at the American University in Washington DC, where he received his MBA Degree and completed his education in conference leadership given by the American Management Association in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Richard Sullivan devoted his life as a career civil servant at the national level by serving in the Navy Department and the Military Sea Transportation Agency and the Post Master General Division; and

WHEREAS, after an early retirement Richard Sullivan moved to the City of Wilton Manors and has been a thirty year resident of the City; and

WHEREAS, Richard Sullivan unselfishly donated \$40,000 to the Friends of the Library for the Children's Wing of the Library; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wilton Manors wishes to honor Mr. Sullivan and thank him for his service to the nation and his generous contribution to the youth of the City and to the City's Library; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN FIORE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS, DO HEREBY DECLARE TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2002 AS

RICHARD SULLIVAN DAY

In the City of Wilton Manors and ask everyone to join me in thanking Mr. Sullivan for his generous contribution to the City's library and for helping to enrich the lives of our children.

IN WITN	ESS WHEF	REOF,	I HE	REU	INTO	SET	MY
HAND AN	ND CAUSE	THE	SEAL	OF	THE	CITY	OF
WILTON	MANORS,	FLOF	RIDA	TO	BE	AFFIX	KED
THIS	_DAY OF JA	ANUAI	RY, 20	02			

JOHN R. FIORE MAYOR

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2002 7:30 P.M. - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fiore called the Regular City Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 22, 2002 to order at 7:30 p.m. The Invocation was given by Reverend Ron Leggett of the Wilton Manors Baptist Church.

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilmembers: Fanizza, Newton, Sherritt, Vice Mayor Resnick and Mayor Fiore. Also present were: City Manager Joseph Gallegos, City Attorney Kerry Ezrol and City Clerk Angela Scott.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS - VICE MAYOR RESNICK

Vice Mayor Resnick welcomed everyone, thanked them for attending the meeting and for participating in their City Government. Vice Mayor Resnick also recognized the candidates running for office in the March 12, 2002 City Election. Vice Mayor Resnick announced that he would be seeking re-election and Councilmember Fanizza announced that she would be running for Mayor. Mayor Fiore also announced that he would be seeking re-election to the position of Mayor.

PROCLAMATIONS

a. Richard Sullivan Day

Mayor Fiore presented Mr. Richard Sullivan with a proclamation, thanking him for his generous donation (\$40,000) to the Children's wing of the City' Library.

b. South Florida Senior Games Day

Mayor Fiore read a proclamation, which declared January 23, 2002 as South Florida Senior Games Day in the City of Wilton Manors.

Digital images courtes y of Wilton Manors City Clerk's Office 01/2025

RESOLUTION NO. 2974

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF MR. RICHARD C. SULLIVAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$280,063.67 TO THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS; TO BE USED TO PAY OFF THE CITY'S MORTGAGE ON THE WILTON MANORS LIBRARY; THAT ON THIS OCCASION IN HONOR OF HIS SELFLESS DEDICATION, THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS DESIGNATES AND RENAMES THE CITY'S LIBRARY AS THE "RICHARD C. SULLIVAN PUBLIC LIBRARY OF WILTON MANORS" TO BE SO RECOGNIZED AT THE TIME OF DEDICATION THEREOF AND THEREAFTER; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Richard C. Sullivan resided in the City of Wilton Manors; and

WHEREAS, Richard C. Sullivan passed away on October 21, 2005; and

WHEREAS, during his lifetime, Richard C. Sullivan donated substantial monies to the Wilton Manors Public Library for the benefit of the citizens and residents of the City of Wilton Manors; and

WHEREAS, Richard C. Sullivan created a trust which upon his death, among other things provided a gift:

"[t]o the City of Wilton Manors an amount sufficient to pay off a portion of the City Mortgage attributable to the Wilton Manors Library, up to the principal balance of the same existed on December 1, 2002, to wit: \$311,535.09 provided the City will rename the library the "RICHARD C. SULLIVAN PUBLIC LIBRARY""

WHEREAS, as of October 21, 2005, the outstanding balance was \$280,063.67; and

WHEREAS, as an additional lasting tribute to his efforts, dedication and donation the City Commission hereby dignifies such service and commitment with the designation and renaming of the City's Library to be known as and recognized in all ways as the "Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors"; and

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WHEREAS, the City Commission of Wilton Manors deems it to be in the best interests of the residents and citizens of Wilton Manors to accept the generous donation bequest from Mr. Richard C. Sullivan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2. Based upon his commitment, loyalty and service to the citizens and residents of the City of Wilton Manors, the City Commission of the City of Wilton Manors, Florida, will designate and rename the City's Library to be known and identified in all ways as the "Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors."

Section 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

<u>Section 4.</u> All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. If any Section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

<u>Section 6</u>. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, THIS 24 DAY OF JANUARY 2006.

CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA

Page 2 of 3

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ATTEST:

By: SCOTT NEWTON

MAYOR

ANGELA D. SCOTT, CMC/AAE

CITY CLERK

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have approved the form of this Resolution

KERRY L. EZROL CITY ATTORNEY

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COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: January 24, 2006

From: Rick Sterling, Library Director

(a) Subject: Resolution # 2974

Richard C. Sullivan Library Bequest

(b) City Manager Recommendation: Approval is recommended.

(c) Report In Brief: This Resolution formally accepts a donation from Richard C. Sullivan and renames the Wilton Manors Public Library to the "Richard C. Sullivan Public Library".

(d) Discussion: Mr. Sullivan was a major donor to the Wilton Manors Public Library during the recent renovation of the Library. This donation allowed the City to expand the Children's Room of the Library. It allowed for dramatic improvements in the children's services and programming thus reflecting Mr. Sullivan's lifelong concern with children and learning.

Mr. Sullivan passed away in October 2005 and has left a bequest of \$280,063.87 that will enable the City to pay off the existing bond for the Library. As a stipulation of his bequest, the Wilton Manors Public Library will be renamed to the "Richard C. Sullivan Public Library." This donation will allow the Library to continue to improve the delivery of Library services to the citizens of the Wilton Manors and is a fitting memorial for Mr. Sullivan's concern for the community.

(e) Strategic Plan Consistency: Goal 2 - Financially Sound City Government, Objective 3 (Adequate Revenue to Support Services) and Objective 5 (Increase Non-Property Tax Revenue and Outside Resources).

(f) Concurrences: City Manager

(g) Fiscal Impact: Fiscal Year: 05/06 Budget

Fund: General Fund Amount: \$280,063.87

Account: 001.5712.58271 Principal Payments

001.5712.58272 Interest Payments

(h) Alternatives: None Recommended

(i) Attachments: Resolution # 2974

Extract of Minutes pages related to Sullivan Library Resolution 2974

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2006 7:00 P.M. – HAGEN PARK

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Newton called the Regular City Commission Meeting of Tuesday, January 24, 2006 to order at 7:00 pm. The invocation was given by Rabbi Harold F. Caminker of Congregation ETZ Chaim, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Commissioner Angelo.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were: Commissioners Angelo, Galatis, Resnick, Vice Mayor Sherritt and Mayor Newton. Also present were City Manager Joseph Gallegos, City Attorney Kerry Ezrol, City Clerk Angela Scott and Deputy City Clerk Patricia Staples.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS - VICE MAYOR CRAIG SHERRITT

Vice Mayor Sherritt welcomed everyone, thanked them for attending the meeting and for participating in their City Government.

- 4. PROCLAMATIONS
- 5. PRESENTATIONS

Police Chief Perez presented Police Officers, Adam Yates, Gary Blocker, Oscar Gonzalez, Biagio Balistreri, Detectives Rick Shawver and Brian Beha with a letter of commendation for apprehending robbers on Wilton Drive.

6. HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC
Any member of the Public may speak on any issue.

Mayor Newton opened the Hearing from the Public.

Paul Kuta 500 N. E. 28 Street, Vice president of the Wilton Manors Friends of the Library spoke in favor of Resolution No. 2974; however, he asked that the Commission consider renaming the library Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors instead of Richard C. Sullivan Public Library.

Christopher Nelson, Discount Health Care, said his company will offer a discount health care plan to residents of Wilton Manors. Mr. Nelson said that families and individuals can receive their membership cards for free. Mr. Nelson further noted that this is an opportunity for the City and his company to get this plan to the uninsured residents of the City. Mr. Nelson left information concerning his company.

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2006
PAGE 2

Steve Zollo, 409 N. E. 26th Street, spoke in favor of Resolution No. 2974. (Mr. Zollo's written comments are attached hereto and made a part hereof).

Diane Cline, 2325 N. E. 19th Avenue, thanked the Mayor/Commissioners for attending the Historical Society Meeting. Ms. Cline said that the Historical Society had given a plaque to Barton Miller Cleaners in recognition of being named the oldest building in the City. Ms. Cline said that she is against renaming the library.

Mary Britton, 2374 Wilton Drive, she is a new business owner and is concerned about the heavy traffic and the insufficient parking on Wilton Drive. Ms. Britton also said that there is a need for crosswalks and traffic lights on Wilton Drive. She asked the Commission to try to alleviate these problems.

There being no other member of the public who wished to speak, Mayor Newton closed the Second Hearing from the Public.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under Consent Agenda, Item 7, are viewed to be routine and the recommendation will be enacted by ONE MOTION in the form listed below. If discussion is desired, then the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- a. Motion to Approve Minutes for:
 - Regular City Commission Meeting 10/11/05
- b. Motion to Approve Bills Submitted by:
 - 1. Richard Doody, Esq. Invoice dated January, 2006-----\$ 250.00
 - 2. URS Invoice No. 2025128- dated 11/18/05-----\$ 176.00
 - 3. URS
 Invoice No. 2025133 dated 11/18/05-----\$ 666.31
 - 4. URS Invoice No. 2025136 - dated 11/18/05----- \$ 440.00
 - 5. URS Invoice No. 2025137- dated 11/18/05-----\$ 913.34
 - 6. URS

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2006
PAGE 4

3. RESOLUTION NO. 2974:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF MR. RICHARD C. SULLIVAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$280,063.67 TO THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS; TO BE USED TO PAY OFF THE CITY'S MORTGAGE ON THE WILTON MANORS LIBRARY; N THIS OCCASION IN HONOR OF HIS SELFLESS DEDICATION, THE CITY OF WILTON DESIGNATES AND RENAMES THE CITY'S MANORS LIBRARY AS THE "RICHARD C. SULLIVAN PUBLIC LIBRARY" TO BE SO RECOGNIZED AT THE TIME OF DEDICATION THEREOF AND THEREAFTER: PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

End of Consent Agenda

Commissioner Galatis asked that Consent Agenda Items No. 7-d-3 (Resolution No. 2974) and Item No. 7-b-8. be removed from the Agenda for discussion.

COMMISSIONER GALATIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH THE REMOVAL OF ITEMS NO. 7-D-1 AND 7B-8. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RESNICK AND CARRIED AS FOLLOWS: AYES: GALATIS, RESNICK, ANGELO, SHERRITT AND MAYOR NEWTON. NAYES: NONE.

DISCUSSION:

ITEM NO. 7D-3 (RESOLUTION NO. 2974)

COMMISSIONER GALATIS MADE A MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 2974 TO REFLECT THAT THE NAME OF THE LIBRARY BE CHANGED TO RICHARD C.

111ACH TO MINUTES -1/24106

Mr. Mayor, commissioners, I am Steve Zollo, of 409 NE 26th Street, where I can look out of my front window and see that lovely yellow building with Bahama shutters that we proudly call our public library.

Tonight before you is a resolution, #2974, calling for the city to accept the generous donation of approximately \$270,000 bequeathed by Mr. Richard Sullivan to pay off the mortgage that was obtained to finance the renovation and expansion of the library. Accepting this requires our naming the library after him. I fully support this, encourage you to vote yes, and thank Mr. Sullivan for being so generous. However, I ask that you amend the resolution to include the name of the city, thus, The Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors.

On a related matter: Currently the library budget holds approximately \$27,000 used to pay the principle and interest on the mortgage. By accepting Mr. Sullivan's generous bequest, it would appear that the city would no longer have to budget this money for the library in the future. That would be a mistake! Should the city not budget this money in the future, it would, unfortunately and ironically, mean that the Sullivan bequest intended to benefit the library he so loved would wind up benefiting the city instead.

Yes I do realize that in the big scheme of things the library's money is the city money's, which is the citizens' hard earned tax dollars. However, it does matter which pocket it is in and I implore you to keep the full \$27,000 in the library's pocket, this year and every year, just as if mortgage needed to be paid.

I would like to remind the commission that this community loves its library, that it was the number one item listed on the needs assessment survey that the Leisure Services Department conducted last year. I would also like to remind the commission that when the referendum for the library bond was on the ballot, that issue created the highest voter turnout up to that time in the city, so overwhelming was the community's willingness to tax itself to have a first-class the library.

With that money retained in the budget in future years, there are so many things that can be done: attract and compensate better qualified professional staff, increase book, magazine and video acquisitions, extend hours, possibly opening on Sunday, a

computerized cataloging system, and any number of other suitable uses.

Another very very important reason for retaining this money in the library's budget is the state grant that we are eligible for, now that we have a professional librarian heading our library. That grant is based in part, on how much the city budgets for the library. The higher the library's budget, the more we are eligible for. Given current state funding levels for this grant program, it would mean an extra \$1500 to \$2000 of grant money if we retain the \$27,000 in the library's operating budge. Already this year's state grant will be less than last year's grant thus this money essential to provide the library services that this community deserves and expects. Therefore, yes please do retire the mortgage for the library but continue to fund the

library as the citizen's so directed with their approval of the referendum a few years back. I thank you for your time and your consideration on these matters.

2025 Spring Town Crier newsletter

Digital images courtesy of Wilton Manors City Clerk's Office 01/2025



COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: May 9, 2006

From: Patrick Cann, Leisure Services Department Director

Prepared by: Rick Sterling, Library Director

- (a) Subject: Second Reading of Ordinance No. 898 Amending Section 2-131 of the City Code renaming the Wilton Manors Public Library as the Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors
- (b) City Manager Recommendation: Recommend approval of Ordinance No. 898
- (c) Report In Brief: Ordinance No. 898 amends Section 2-131 "Library Established", renaming the library as the Richard C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors.
- (d) Discussion: In 2005, the City was informed that Richard C. Sullivan, long time resident and ardent supporter of the library left in his will the funding for the balance of the debt service on the library, (\$280,063.67). As a condition of this bequest, the City was asked to rename the library in recognition of Mr. Richard C. Sullivan. Ordinance No. 898 formally adopts the name change.
- (e) **Strategic Plan Consistency:** Goal 2, Financially Sound City Government objectives 4 and 5; cost-effective delivery of City services and increase non-property tax revenue and outside resources.
- (f) Concurrences: City Managers Office and Finance Department
- (g) Fiscal Impact: The City received the balance due on the Library debt service, (\$280,063.67).
- (h) Alternatives: None recommended.
- (i) Attachments: Ordinance No. 898

1 ORDINANCE NO. 898 2 3 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF 4 CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, 5 AMENDING SECTION 2-131 ENTITLED "LIBRARY 6 ESTABLISHED" OF THE **CITY** CODE 7 ORDINANCES, RENAMING THE WILTON MANORS 8 PUBLIC LIBRARY AS THE RICHARD C. SULLIVAN 9 **PUBLIC** LIBRARY OF WILTON **MANORS**; 10 PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR 11 CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; 12 AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. 13 14 WHEREAS, Section 2-131 of the City Code created and established a public 15 library for the City which is known as the Wilton Manors Public Library; and 16 WHEREAS, in recognition of the generosity of Richard C. Sullivan the City 17 Commission of the City of Wilton Manors desires to rename the library "Richard C. Sullivan 18 Public Library of Wilton Manors". 19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF 20 THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA, THAT: 21 Section 1. The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed 2.2. as being true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference. 23 Section 2. Section 2-131 of the City of Wilton Manors Code of Ordinances, 24 entitled, "Library established", thereof, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows: 25 Sec. 2-131. Library established. CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; Words in <u>underlined</u> type are additions.

Page 1 of 3

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26	There is hereby created and established public library for
27	the city which shall be known as the Wilton Manors Public Library Richard
28	C. Sullivan Public Library of Wilton Manors.
29	Section 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the
30	same are repealed to the extent of such conflict.
31	Section 4. It is the intention of the City Commission, and it is hereby ordained
32	that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of the
33	City of Wilton Manors, that the sections of the Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered
34	to accomplish such intentions; and that the word "Ordinance" shall be changed to
35	"Section" or other appropriate word.
36	Section 5. If any Section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be
37	invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no
38	way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.
39	Section 6. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and
40	adoption.
41	
42	(REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)
43	
44	CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; Words in underlined type are additions.
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PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILTON 45 MANORS, FLORIDA ON FIRST READING THIS DAY OF APRIL 2006. 46 PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILTON 47 MANORS, FLORIDA ON SECOND AND FINAL READING THIS THIS THE DAY OF MAY 48 49 2006. 50 CITY OF WILTON MANORS, FLORIDA 51 52 ATTEST: 53 SCOTT NEWTON, MAYOR 54 55 56 ANGELA D. SCOTT, CMC/AAE CITY CLERK 57 58 59 I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have approved the form 60 of this Ordinance. 61 62 63 64 KERRY/L. HZROL 65 CITY ATTORNEY

CODING:

66

Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; Words in <u>underlined</u> type are additions.

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