

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
ORANGE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
RESOLUTION 22-007.1

**Resolution to Honor Mary Anne Hodel Upon Her Retirement**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Orange County Library System, held in the City of Orlando, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022, at 6:00 pm, prevailing Eastern Time.

PRESENT: Crockett Bohannon; Richard Maladecki; Danielle Levien; Lizannette Tam

ABSENT: Nicole Benjamin

The Board Resolves:

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hodel has served as Director/CEO for Orange County Library System since 2002; and

WHEREAS, Orange County Library System operates 15 locations and serves a diverse and growing community of approximately 1.4 million residents; and

WHEREAS, when she started in her role as Director, she recognized the need for the Orange County Library System to update and enhance its facilities and increase the number of technology classes and training opportunities to match the needs of an increasingly digital world; and

WHEREAS, she greatly expanded the library's digital resources, adding virtual programs, live online classes, computer training opportunities and new databases to better serve the community; and

WHEREAS, with the help of a generous donation from the Melrose Family Foundation, she established the Dorothy Lumley Melrose Center for Technology, Innovation and Creativity, at the Orlando Public Library; and

WHEREAS, the Melrose Center is a unique facility that provides public access to professional-quality creative software and equipment, including photo, video and audio studios, as well as classes that train people to use them; and

WHEREAS, she introduced other service innovations, such as ESOL classes for people who needed to improve English-language skills, technology classes in Spanish and Haitian Creole, and a Citizenship Inspired course to assist people in passing the U.S. Naturalization exam; and

WHEREAS she oversaw the relocation of the South Creek, Fairview Shores and Winter Garden branch locations; and

WHEREAS, she oversaw the renovation of the Orlando Public Library and most of the branches; and

WHEREAS she oversaw the addition of the Chickasaw and Eatonville branches to the library system; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Library System has won numerous awards during her tenure, including the 2010 and 2021 Florida Library of the Year, as well as a 2018 National Medal from the Institute for Museum and Library Services; and

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hodel won the FLA Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021; and

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hodel has made an indelible mark on the Orange County Library System, making it a standout institution among modern public libraries; and

WHEREAS Mary Anne Hodel made a point of making a personal connection with her employees, and treated every person with respect; and

WHEREAS Mary Anne Hodel was a steadfast supporter and member of the Friends of the Library, contributing to their efforts to support the Library; and

WHEREAS Mary Anne Hodel demonstrated the library purpose of Learn, Grow, Connect in all her interactions with customers, staff and community members; and

WHEREAS Mary Anne Hodel's legacy is one of service and commitment both to the Library and to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mary Anne Hodel retires from her role at Orange County Library System on January 21, 2022;

Now be it resolved that the Orange County Library System Board of Trustees publicly recognizes, honors, thanks, and congratulates Mary Anne Hodel for her excellent and steadfast service to the Orange County Library System. The Board wishes her well upon her retirement and the next chapter in her life.

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED:**

*Milinda Neusaenger*  
Secretary