

TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
JOHN F. GERMANY PUBLIC LIBRARY
SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

Board Members Present: William Scheuerle (Chair), Bob Argus (Vice-Chair), Jim Harkins, James Martin, Michael Sevi, Mary Lou Tuttle, and Cori Toler. Kay O'Rourke, Jim Johnson, Catherine Cottle and Alma Hires were excused.

Staff Present: Joe Stines, Director; David Wullschleger, Manager, Operations; Lisa Wagner, Coordinator, Administrative Services & Grants; Aracelis Putnam, Administrative Specialist; Robin Gibson, Friends Coordinator; Marianne Tucker, Grants Coordinator; Jason Biggers, General Manager III; Andrew Breidenbaugh, Chief Librarian; Sheryl Herold, Accountant III.

Guests: Deborah Blews, Senior Assistant County Attorney.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

The following volunteers were recognized from Jimmie B. Keel Library, where they have served 3,832 hours collectively:

Cameron Stark
Elizabeth ("Betsy") Boynton
Frances Schulz
Bernadette Storck

Minutes from the August 26, 2010 Library Board meeting were approved with changes.

There were no presentations from the public.

Committee Reports

Budget Committee

During the Budget Committee's review of the budget report, staff were asked to add two columns to the report to clarify actual amounts and percentages. The Library's year-end budget report will be presented in the modified format.

A donation has been received from the Upper Tampa Foundation to be used for enhancement of Upper Tampa Bay Library. The donation will be submitted as an agenda item for approval by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) at their October 6 meeting. (*Update: The donation was presented and approved at the BOCC meeting on 10/6.*)

On September 1, the BOCC approved the purchase of five acres of land for the future Fishhawk library. The monies will go to reimburse Parks & Recreation Department for the land.

Renovations to the C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Library are underway with new signage and a new irrigation system in the works. An official renaming ceremony is being planning for 2011.

As part of the Saunders Foundation's plan to dissolve their organization, it is working to procure a giving tree for donations as well as commissioning a bust of Robert W. Saunders, Sr. The Real Estate Department has been working with the City of Tampa to arrange transfer of the building and land to the County in preparation for the new Saunders building project. That agenda item is scheduled to go before the BOCC on October 20. (*Update: This item was approved on the consent agenda at the 10/20/10 BOCC meeting.*)

The next meeting of the Budget Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 3:00 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library.

Planning Committee

Staff reported that cracks in the foundation of C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Library (formerly College Hill) are still being monitored and no significant change has been found.

The Planning Committee is set to begin the process of working on the unfunded capital improvements list at their next meeting in October.

Staff is exploring the use of electronic media and hardware that supports the library's electronic book formats as part of the Long Range Strategic Plan. It was requested that a permanent item be added—Technology Update—to the regular Planning Committee agenda.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 4:00 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library.

Policy & Bylaws Committee

The Policy & Bylaws Committee did not have a quorum at their recent meeting. They did, however, review library policy, LS516, Abandoned Vehicles, which will be revised and brought back.

Staff is also reviewing the library policies index to see which policies are coming due for renewal. A demonstration was shown of selected public service policies that are now viewable via the redesigned Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library website.

The next meeting of the Policy & Bylaws Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, 2010, 3:00 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library.

Unfinished Business

Discussion continued concerning residency requirements for Library Board applicants. Dr. Scheuerle asked the Library Board to consider whether or not to propose that some type of residency restrictions be put in place for those applying to serve on the Library Board. Currently, when vacancies come open, the department has an opportunity to review applications together with the Library Board Chair and make recommendations. Ms. Blews informed the Library Board that the BOCC is in the process of revising its procedures for advisory board appointments and she will bring this issue to the County Attorney's attention. (It was previously determined that any person residing within Hillsborough County may apply for appointment to the Library Board and that any changes would require an amendment to the Florida legislature's special act.) Ms. Blews suggested the Library Board write a letter expressing their concerns to the BOCC so that they may arrive at a solution for the Library taxing district.

New Business

The next meeting concerning SouthShore public art takes place on September 27.

Letters were sent out from the Library Board to Commissioner Ken Hagan regarding C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Library and to former member, Patricia McClure accepting her letter of resignation.

Director's Report

Mr. Stines has been invited to do a presentation on Library Services for the Citizens Advisory Council at their September 24 meeting.

Parks & Recreation Director, Mark Thornton, has been appointed as Acting Human Services Administrator following the retirement of Manus O'Donnell.

Staff is preparing an update on the next steps to the Long Range Strategic Plan and the actions underway. Staff is also working to reopen libraries again on Fridays with the exception of Charles J. Fendig Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.