



TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Public Library

February 26, 2026

Members Present: Maggie Mardirosian (Chair), Carmen Alvarez (Vice Chair), Jessica Ocasio (Secretary), Phyllis Alpert, Abigail StClair, Liz Hawley, Michael Newett, Mary Kate Downing, Brown and Bob Argus. Member(s) Absent: Alicia Guy, Ami Marie Granger Welch, Michael Newett.

Staff Present: Chely Cantrell, Aracelis Chapman, Lyn Begraft, Julio Granda, Allie Brazis, Frank Colli, Janet Marnatti, Stacey Jurewicz, Raishara Bailey, Damion Beckett, Daniel Sullivan, Antoinette Giamalva, Hetalben Patel, Martin Gonzalez, Ellen Mizio.

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm with a quorum present.

The Library Board and staff express sincere condolences in the recent passing of District 3 member, Curtis Brown.

PUBLIC COMMENT—None.

Minutes from the January 22, 2026 meeting were approved as amended.

The Library's Fiscal 2026 Budget report for January 2026 was reviewed along with monthly activity summaries. Clarification was provided regarding leased materials, the budget process and passport acceptance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None.

NEW BUSINESS

Staff provided an overview of the Library's planned FY27 Budget Decision Units.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Library branch leadership were introduced: Raishara Bailey (Branch Manager), Damion Beckett (Assistant Branch Manager) and Stacey Jurewicz (Public Service Regional Manager).

Discussed the property tax reform measures being considered in the State legislature. The Library Board expressed concerns about advocacy. Staff are closely monitoring the situation while gathering preliminary data and potential impacts.

Four Public Library Board terms are expiring. Incumbents will be notified individually by BOCC Boards and Councils to re-apply.

Staff presented an introduction to the Library's literacy program and partnership with the Hillsborough Literacy Council, celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. A copy of the annual Visions publication was distributed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm. The next regular meeting of the Public Library Board is Thursday, March 26, 2026 starting 4pm at Lutz Library.