

**TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD**  
**JOHN F. GERMANY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**JUNE 26, 2008**

**Board Members Present:** Chair, James Martin, Laura Vickers, Bob Argus, William Scheuerle, Christopher Rosbough, Kay O'Rourke, Margaret Fisher, Patrick DeMarco, Alma Hires and Catherine Cottle. James Harkins and Jim Johnson were excused.

**Staff Present:** Joe Stines, Director of Library Services; Jacquelyn Zebos, Manager, Administrative and Reference Services; David Wullschleger, Manager, Operations; Suzanne George, Manager, Library Facilities Planning & Design; Lisa Wagner, Coordinator, Administrative Services and Grants; Aracelis Putnam, Administrative Specialist; Marianne Tucker, Senior Librarian; Darlene Harris, Principal Librarian; and Debbie Blews, Assistant County Attorney.

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

Minutes from the May 22, 2008 Library Board meeting were reviewed and approved.

There were no comments from the public.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Budget Committee—

Dr. Scheuerle updated the Board on the status of two assignments that remain outstanding from a previous meeting—response from the Friends foundations concerning their future building plans and a report on the library book buying process. Mr. Stines has heard from the Saunders Foundations via Fred Hearn, stating that there is approximately \$21,000 in their account. Staff has not been able to reach Mr. Scharringhausen of the Upper Tampa Bay Foundation. Marcee Challener, Manager, Circulation and Materials, delivered a report to the Budget Committee on the library's book buying process. She will present a brief overview for the Board at their July meeting.

A schedule of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) budget workshops and public hearings for the FY09 budget were distributed to the Board. Based on upon the budget presented to the BOCC, the County Administrator has accepted all efficiencies recommended by the Library Board. Funding of Plant City and Temple Terrace libraries has been reduced to approximately \$182,000 (\$101,000 to Plant City and \$71,000 to Temple Terrace), which is a roll back to 2001 funding. The book budget

was not cut. The millage for the library taxing district was cut by 1/20<sup>th</sup> of a mil, which represents a \$3.7 million loss of revenue for 2009. The top two items in the unfunded projects list—Seminole Heights and land acquisition for future projects—received full funding. The Saunders expansion has been postponed for one year. The University Area and Sulphur Springs will go forward as planned. Turkey Creek has been removed from the five-year plan. Commissioner Sharpe inquired at a budget workshop about evening hours at the smaller libraries and whether they could remain open later in the evening. A summary fact sheet concerning the library operating hours will be provided to the County Administrator for future discussion. The BOCC will officially approve the FY09 budget on September 18, 2008. With regard to reciprocal borrowing, a 60-day notice is required as specified in the interlocal agreement signed between the BOCC and Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC). It is tentatively planned that notice may be provided in August, 2008 so that reciprocal borrowing would end October, 2008. **A motion was made by Dr. Scheuerle to have the Library Board Chair direct a letter to the BOCC in support of what the County Administrator has done in the budget for the library both in the operating budget and what she has proposed for the CIP. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Vickers and received unanimous consent.**

The next meeting of the Budget Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, 2008, 4:00 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library.

Mr. Martin introduced and the Board welcomed new Library Board member, Catherine Cottle. Ms. Cottle had previously served on the Library Board for several years.

#### Planning Committee—

The Saunders walkway is slowly progressing and an interlocal agreement is being negotiated. The Planning Committee is in the process of revising ranking criteria for projects. The Committee was informed that the County is going through a review of the over all County's master plan to include different areas such as a capital needs analysis, operational needs analysis and several other factors. The Committee will be looking at this as they revise the library's master plan. Mr. Argus provided an update on projects. Turkey Creek has been removed from the CIP list. The library has been approached by Newland Communities to offer a different location for a library in the Fishhawk community. Staff will be collecting additional information. Also, the library had previously been approached by a developer of Triple Creek about building a library within that development; however, it appears that the Triple Creek project has been downsized.

Additional information was received concerning the proposed Gibsonton storefront library. The board discussed operational costs for the U-Save facility location. Staff estimates that it would cost approximate \$400,000 per year to operate the facility. Shelving and equipment is available for use

from North Tampa and Seffner libraries. Options for a storefront book collection would be to form a collection by taking from every library in the system or by taking from the book budget. Staff is exploring alternatives to be considered for providing library service to the Gibsonton area including partnerships with Parks & Recreation and Gibsonton Elementary as well as an additional Cybermobile stop.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee is scheduled for July 22, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library Auditorium.

### **Policy & Bylaws Committee—**

**Dr. Hires presented a recommendation to the Board on behalf of the Policy & Bylaws Committee that renaming of the Seminole Heights Library be postponed until the new building is in progress. Mr. Argus moved to second and the recommendation was approved.** The director will be meeting with Old Seminole Heights Neighborhood Association in July and plans to inform them of the Board's decision. No response has yet been received from other neighborhood associations in the Seminole Heights community.

A new policy was presented to the Committee concerning distribution and display of community information publications. The Committee will review the policy and provide a recommendation at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Policy & Bylaws Committee is scheduled for July 24, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at 78<sup>th</sup> Street Library.

### **Unfinished Business**

The Board continued review and discussion of the handouts concerning the proposed Gibsonton library and square footage for the shopping center location.

Ms. George briefed the Board concerning Thonotosassa Library's recent roof drain problem. The IT equipment room sustained water damage brought on by a severe roof drain blockage. Facilities replaced the dry wall and mitigated any mold and mildew growth by regulating the temperature. Computer equipment had to be replaced. The library was closed for about six days and has since reopened.

Mr. Argus requested an update on the library's hurricane plans. Mr. Stines reported that the library has updated its hurricane plans and explained that the county has implemented a disaster recovery

program, “Know Your Role.” Ms. George was asked to bring back an update on hurricane planning and library hardening to the next Planning Committee meeting.

Due to the John F. Germany ceiling work on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor East Building, Library Board meetings scheduled at John F. Germany Library will temporarily take place in the Auditorium.

**New Business**—None.

### **Director’s Report**

The Crawford Art project at the SouthShore Library was featured in a recent article in the SouthShore news section of the Tampa Tribune.

Mr. Stines shared a complimentary letter received from a library patron. The patron is appreciative that the library still has many “real books” on the shelves in addition to all the new technology and requested the library continue to offer as many books as possible.

With the assistance of the Friends of the Library through a grant application, the Library now offers a new program of educational toys geared to children with disabilities. The “adaptive toys” are available for circulation throughout the system. The Director shared a letter from a patron thanking the library and saying how important the adaptive toys program is to them.

Mr. Stines introduced library staff, Darlene Harris, adult programming coordinator and Marianne Tucker, grants coordinator, who made a presentation to the Board about the Big Read program. The library is fortunate to participate in the Big Read program through a grant funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. The Big Read is a national initiative whose goal is restore reading to American culture by reintroducing American classics. Hillsborough County has chosen to feature the novel, “Their Eyes were Watching God,” by Zora Neal Thurston because of its Florida connection. The library will be providing book discussions, film screenings, lectures by professors and other scholars throughout the community throughout the month of September, 2008. Activities focused toward teens will take place throughout Hillsborough County facilitated by area partner groups such as Barnes & Noble. The National Endowment for the Arts will provide readers guides to be distributed Countywide and teachers guides with accompanying curriculum for area schools.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

### **Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

Planning Committee, Tuesday, July 22, 2008, 3:00 p.m. @ John F. Germany

Budget Committee, Tuesday, July 22, 2008, 4:00 p.m. @ John F. Germany

Policy & Bylaws Committee—Thursday, July 24, 2008, 3:00 p.m. @ 78<sup>th</sup> Street Library

Library Board—Thursday, July 24, 2008, 4:00 p.m. @ 78<sup>th</sup> Street Library