



TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Robert W. Saunders Sr. Library

October 24, 2019

Members Present: Felicia Pecora (Chair), Phyllis Alpert (Vice Chair), Carmen Alvarez, Bob Argus, Abigail St. Claire, Shelly McClellan, Maggie Suttell and Michael Newett.

Members Absent: Jim Johnson, Candi Martin and Ben Hom.

Staff: Andrew Breidenbaugh, Jacquelyn Zebos, Renelda Sells, Chely Cantrell, Aracelis Chapman, Sheryl Herold, Janet Marnatti, Jeffrey Huggins, Roland Ford, Lisa Wagner, Alison Harris, Bridgett Lattimore and Ana Juarez.

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

Minutes from the September 26, 2019 meeting were approved as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT—None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policies & Bylaws Committee

The Policies & Bylaws Committee recommended clarifying edits to the Library Board Bylaws under Article II, Section 5-Absenteeism and under Article III, Section 8-Absence of a Quorum. Following discussion, the Library Board voted unanimously to accept the updated Bylaws.

The Library Board voted in unanimous support of the Library's 2020 holiday closing schedule as presented.

Finance & Planning Committee

A report was provided regarding active cardholder definitions and how related statistical data is calculated along with a comparison of the largest library systems in the U.S. by population served.

Demolition of the annex building adjacent to John F. Germany Library is almost underway in preparation for construction of the neighboring downtown tower. Staff are working with City of Tampa and the area contractor to minimize any impacts to library service.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of candidates for Library Board consideration, in accordance with the Bylaws.

Chair: Felicia Pecora
Vice Chair: Phyllis Alpert
Secretary: Maggie Suttell

The floor was open for other nominations; none were proposed. Further nominations will be accepted via email or at the December 5, 2019 Library Board meeting at Bloomingdale Regional Library.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The 2020 Library Board Meeting schedule was unanimously approved without changes.

NEW BUSINESS

The Library Board was in unanimous support of the recommended funding distribution amounts for the Tampa-Hillsborough County Children's Library Foundation in 2020. The Tampa-Hillsborough County Children's Library Foundation was created by donors Jim and Joann Duffy to support free interactive, engaging library programs for children and their caregivers.

ADVOCACY REPORTS

Carmen Alvarez spoke regarding the teen literature author festival that is being planned for next year at SouthShore Regional Library.

Shelly McClellan spoke regarding an event highlighting Saunders Library branch history.

Abigail St. Clair spoke regarding the benefits of the library, downloading eBooks through Overdrive on the library website and encouraging others to join the Friends of the Library.

Felicia Pecora inquired about the possibility of extending borrowing privileges to City of Tampa employees. Staff will explore options and reach out to the Mayor's Advisory Council.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The University of South Florida, School of Information recently recognized Carrie Hurst, Administrative Librarian, with its 2020 Jean Key Gates Distinguished Alumni Award. The award is presented annually to a USF School of Information alumna whose outstanding professional career achievements serve as a role model for all information science graduates.

John F. Germany Library has been named as one of three finalists for the Downtown Partnership Award in the category of "Activating Outside Spaces."

An update was provided on the continuing reorganization of the Library's support services structure, including a list of planned changes and draft organization chart.

Staff presented the most popular statistical highlights from the library Website from the last fiscal year October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm.

The next meeting of the Library Board is scheduled for Thursday, December, 4 pm at Bloomingdale Regional Library.