



TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Robert W. Saunders, Sr. Public Library

January 22, 2026

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

Staff Present: Chely Cantrell, Melissa Lowe, Frank Colli, Janet Marnatti, Dustin Kirby, Danielle Guirguis, Jasmine Qronfle, Hetalben Patel, Ellen Mizio, Lyn Begraft, Jennie Grubb, Shedriek Battle, Yashikah Clayton.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT—None.

Minutes from the December 4, 2025 meeting were approved.

The Library's Fiscal 2026 Budget reports for November 2025 and December 2025 were reviewed along with monthly activity summaries. Clarification was provided regarding lease books and any impacts due to the loss of our previous vendor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Staff presented an update on the current status of capital improvement projects underway. **The Library Board unanimously voted in support of the list of future unfunded capital improvement priorities.**

NEW BUSINESS

The Library Board unanimously voted to approve the Duffy Children's Library Foundation proposed distribution for 2026.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A 2025 Year-in-Review highlighted data such as the number of library visits and households with library cards. Staff will bring back more information about how we compare to other County libraries in Florida.

New Division Manager of Library Brand Innovation, Lyn Begraft, was introduced and an overview provided of which areas will now report to Library Brand Innovation.

In response to a question about AI integration, Director Cantrell explained the County's direction and we are reviewing how staff can help to familiarize customers with its use.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm. The next regular meeting of the Public Library Board is Thursday, February 26, 2026 starting 4pm at C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Public Library.