

**TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD**  
**SOUTHSHORE REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**JUNE 28, 2007**

**Board Members Present:** Chair, Jim Johnson, James Martin, Bob Argus, Kay O'Rourke, Laura Vickers, James Harkins, Patrick DeMarco.

**Excused:** William Scheuerle, Alma Hires, Dora Reeder, and Margaret Fisher.

Staff Present: Joe Stines, Director of Library Services; Linda Gillon, Manager, Programming; Jackie Zebos, Manager, Administrative Services and Reference; Lisa Wagner, Coordinator, Administrative Services and Grants; Andrew Breidenbaugh, Chief Librarian, Barbara Marquette, Administrative Specialist; and Ricardo Cox, Assistant County Attorney; Jason Biggers, Principal Librarian, Library Network Services; Julie Beamguard, Bloomingdale Regional Branch Supervisor; and Josephine Cohen, Upper Tampa Bay Regional Branch Supervisor.

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of the Library Board Minutes of May 24, 2007. Mr. Harkins moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Martin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Comments from the Public:** Frances Hereford, SouthShore Friends of the Library thanked the Library Board for the SouthShore Library stating that the Friends have a very good rapport with the staff. Ms. Hereford asked for a meeting with Library staff and the Friends to discuss the audit findings and to have financial statements provided. Mr. Stines responded that as soon as the audit is completed it will be sent to each Friends of the Library chapter. She stressed the need for checks weekly and monthly balance statements.

The Library Board thanked Ms. Hereford and the Friends for the refreshments they provided.

### **Committee Reports**

**Budget Committee:** Vice-Chair, Bob Argus discussed the proposed budget cuts and potential cost savings totaling approximately \$100-300 thousand. Five specific items were accepted and the expansions of seven libraries costing \$17 million are on hold indefinitely. Currently this appears to be the only impact on Library Services. The unknown is the proposed constitutional amendment that should be on the January election that may rollback property taxes and may generate additional cuts. Mr. Stines stated that this is the County Administrators plan. It is based on the Senate and House plans during the special session. Phase 1 eliminates the seven new libraries. Mr. Stines stated that he feels those seven projects will be eliminated so the funds from those projects will help the Library through FY08. He does not expect to lay off any full time employees during FY08. However, a Phase 3 response has been prepared for FY09. The County Administrator's FY09 Budget will be presented as if there is no roll back referendum on the ballot. The Budget Committee will have a chance to overhaul the budget. If the roll back is approved the Library Services will have to cut \$8 million. A reduction of staff and hours will have to be made. Three additional Library Service efficiencies have been presented to the County Administrator 1) Cut guard service by 62%, 2) Cut Page positions, 3) Elimination of cell phones, unused phone and data lines.

**Mr. Argus stated that the Committee had voted unanimously to bring the three efficiencies to the Library Board. Mr. Harkins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Argus stated that there were no significant issues raised regarding the monthly budget. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 24, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library. The July 9, 2007 meeting has been cancelled with the expectation that the County Administrator's budget will be known around July 16<sup>th</sup>.

Planning Committee: Chair, James Martin stated the Committee discussed the elimination of the seven funded projects and reviewed the Unfunded Projects list and the Unfunded Capital Improvements list. The Committee will discuss these two lists and develop a strategy for FY08 and 09. Mr. Stines stated that it was not clear what projects the Board of County Commissioners may have questions. By reviewing these lists the Library Board will be prepared to make their recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. The next meeting is July 24, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library.

Policy and Bylaws Committee: Chair, Laura Vickers stated that the Committee is continuing its review of the Wireless Internet Access policy and also began discussion on the NetSmartz program and Time Management Software and time limits on computer usage. These topics will be continued at next month's meeting. The next meeting is July 26, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library.

#### **Unfinished Business – Nominating Committee**

Recommended Slate of Officers:

Chair - James Martin, Vice Chair – Bob Argus, Secretary – Laura Vickers

Nominations from the floor will be taken before the election at the July meeting

**New Business** – Mr. Johnson presented the Community Design Awards to the branch managers of the Bloomingdale Regional Public Library and the Upper Tampa Bay Regional Public Library.

**Director's Report** - Mr. Stines stated that the Imagination Library has approximately 700 children in six zip codes signed up. The Imagination Library is a program started by Dolly Parton in East Tennessee that encourages children to read. It cost approximately \$30 per child per year to provide twelve age appropriate hard back books. The program starts with children from birth through five years of age.

Ms. O'Rourke made the recommendation that the Library Board name the John F. Germany Public Library Boardroom in recognition of Sandra Cameron and her years on the Library Board. Discussion followed. **Mr. Harkins made the motion that this be referred to the Policy and Bylaws Committee for recommendation. Mr. Argus seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Harkins stated that the USF classes at SouthShore will begin on September 15, 2007. He asked that the schedule be posted on the Library website. Mr. Harkins announced that his book has been published. He asked to be excused from July through September.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Dates:

**Budget - Tuesday, July 24, 2007 - 2:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library**

**Planning –Tuesday, July 24, 2007 – 3:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library**

**Policy & Bylaws - Thursday, July 26, 2007 – 2:30 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library**

**Library Board – Thursday, July 26, 2007 - 4:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library**