

TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
AUSTIN DAVIS LIBRARY
MAY 22, 2008

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

Staff Present: Joe Stines, Director of Library Services; David Wullschleger, Manager, Operations; Lisa Wagner, Coordinator, Administrative Services and Grants; Aracelis Putnam, Administrative Specialist; Maurice Site, Chief Librarian; Janet Walters, Senior Librarian; and Ricardo Cox, Assistant County Attorney.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

Minutes from the April 24, 2008 Library Board meeting were reviewed and approved.

Comments from the Public:

Maureen Gauzza, representing Upper Tampa Bay Friends of the Library, spoke in reference to the minutes of the April 24, 2008 Library Board meeting.

Carol Phillips, on behalf of Concerned Citizens for Gibsonton, spoke in favor of the proposed library for the Gibsonton community.

Cindy Gormley, representing Upper Tampa Bay Friends of the Library, thanked the Library Board for reviewing the unfunded projects list and for supporting Upper Tampa Bay Library.

John Kafalas, Gibsonton Postmaster, expressed his support for a library in Gibsonton.

Committee Reports

Budget Committee—Dr. Scheuerle reported that the Budget Committee reviewed the monthly budget as of April 30, 2008. There is to be a minor readjustment of some of the figures that were discussed at the meeting on May 20th. Staff was asked to prepare a report outlining what each library spends on books to be presented at the June meeting as per a previous request made by Budget Committee members. Dr. Scheuerle reported that there has been no response to the two letters that were sent out to the two foundations. Staff will contact Mr. Scharringhausen and Mr. Hearn by phone. The County

Administrator will be announcing her recommended budget for FY09 during the June 4th Board of County Commissioners meeting. The first public hearing on the budget is scheduled for June 11th at 6:00 p.m.

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

Planning Committee—Mr. Argus reported that Robert Minthorn, representing the Concerned Citizens of Gibsonton, appeared at the June 20th meeting to speak before the Planning Committee in favor of the proposed storefront library for Gibsonton. There were several questions and staff was asked to come back with some statistics. The Saunders/Booker T. Washington walkway project is progressing. A draft interlocal agreement is ready for Joe to review. The Planning Committee continued its discussion of establishing a system for ranking capital projects. A copy of the state guidelines was reviewed and staff was asked to come up with a customized, more locally focused beginning point for discussion at the next meeting. The Committee discussed the request from Plant City to continue their grant. Additional information was received from the Plant City long-range plan showing where their constituents come from as well as a letter concerning reciprocal borrowing.

The next meeting of the Planning Committee is scheduled for June 24, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library.

Policy & Bylaws Committee— **Mrs. Vickers reported that the Committee completed its annual review of the Library Board Bylaws and recommends no changes at this time. Mr. Argus moved that the Board accept the Bylaws without change. Mr. Martin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.** Concerning the request to rename Seminole Heights Library, there has been no response from the area homeowner's association to letters requesting input. The Committee had a discussion about what constitutes a quorum and concluded that business cannot be conducted without a quorum. Mrs. Vickers encouraged all the members to attend their meetings so that business may be conducted.

The next meeting of the Policy & Bylaws Committee is scheduled for June 26, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Harkins briefed the Board on the on-going process of the request for traffic signage in South County directing traffic to SouthShore. He has had no success with Department of Transportation representatives and plans to appeal to his legislators.

New Business

Mr. Rosbough reported that he recently met with Library staff and other law enforcement and safety representatives to come up with ideas to address the issue of library security. A Community Service Officer from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office will be doing a safety audit for each of the libraries, which is expected to be completed by end of July, 2008. The Community Service Officer will also be exploring CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), which looks at aspects of the library's interior and exterior layouts to ensure there are no hidden places (i.e. trimming bushes, etc.). The primary suggestion that came about was to look at lighting, particularly at older library branches. Mr. Rosbough provided Library staff with a study that looks at the benefits and drawbacks of closed circuit television (CCTV) versus lighting. CCTV is not always a cure-all for crime prevention—lighting is usually more of a crime preventive measure and is more cost effective than CCTV. With regard to the County's "Dark Skies" ordinance, there is a possibility of installing lighting with tops that redirect light. The library, together with law enforcement, will continue to explore these and other possibilities. Mr. Rosbough said that the group briefly discussed the incident at Bloomingdale Library and the issue of any liability. Mr. Rosbough shared that he personally visited to the Bloomingdale Library one evening and his impression is that it is a very lighted area.

Mr. Harkins made a request to add a column within the monthly circulation reports containing totals for DVD's and electronic media. The motion did not go forward as it was the Board's consensus that the additional information would be unnecessary.

Mr. Johnson introduced and the Board welcomed Mr. Hung Mai, the owner of the shopping center that is being considered for a storefront library in Gibsonton.

Director's Report

The City of Tampa is currently moving from the third floor of the West Building. It will probably take until July, 2008 before the floor is completely vacated. Library staff will begin their relocation from the fourth floor of the east building to 3W at that time.

The Imagination Library has reached a milestone in that over 5,000 infants have been registered. The program should receive the funding needed to continue.

The Cybersafe proposal failed to pass through the House of Representatives. The County is still working on the program and ways to begin approaching parents.

Congratulations to Bob Argus and Jim Harkins, who were reappointed to Library Board at the June 4th BOCC meeting. Newly appointed member, Catherine Cottle will be joining the Library Board at their June meeting. Ms. Cottle had previously served on the Board some time ago.

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Argus announced that Maureen Gauzza is retiring after 9 years as president of the Upper Tampa Bay Friends of the Library. The Board recognized Ms. Gauzza and thanked her for her years of service to Upper Tampa Bay Friends.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Planning Committee, Tuesday, June 24, 2008, 3:00 p.m. @ John F. Germany

Budget Committee, Tuesday, June 24, 2008, 4:00 p.m. @ John F. Germany

Policy & Bylaws Committee—Thursday, June 26, 2008, 3:00 p.m. @ John F. Germany

Library Board—Thursday, June 26, 2008, 4:00 p.m. @ John F. Germany