



TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Jan Kaminis Platt Regional Library

October 26, 2023

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

Member(s) Absent: Abigail StClair.

Staff Present: Andrew Breidenbaugh, Renelda Sells, Aracelis Chapman, Kathleen Langevin, Jasmine Qronfleh and Allie Brazis.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm with a quorum present.

There were no presentations from the public.

Minutes from the September 28, 2023 meeting were approved.

BUDGET REVIEW

The Library's Fiscal 2023 Budget report dated September 30, 2023 was reviewed along with monthly activity summaries. Clarification was provided regarding staffing budgets, freight and postage services, operating supplies, and meeting room attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion by the Board of County Commissioners regarding the Public Library Board (PLB) term extensions has been deferred to a future meeting. PLB terms are under review to bring them in line with Special Act 84-443 requiring staggered member terms within each district.

NEW BUSINESS

Staff presented information from an initial feasibility study to acquire an existing building, currently The Palmetto Club at Fishhawk, that can be converted into a community library.

A proposed schedule of locations for the 2024 Library Board meetings was reviewed and approved as presented. (Motion by Mr. Argus; seconded by Mr. Newett)

The 2024 holiday closing schedule for Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library was unanimously approved as presented. (Motion by Mr. Argus; seconded by Mr. Newett)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On October 18, 2023 the Board of County Commissioners voted to accept the Staff Report concerning the new borrower rules. Library staff have begun the implementation process with a target completion for the first quarter of 2024.

A second fire recently occurred at Riverview Library believed to be caused by a variable air volume unit within the HVAC system. A full investigation involving the County's Risk Management and insurance is in progress. Restoration efforts are underway including ductwork cleaning and an air quality test. The branch reopened on October 23, 2023, except for the community meeting room which must remain closed throughout the investigation and HVAC repairs.

The State Library of Florida has issued a notice that all IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library) funding coming from the State cannot be spent on Florida Library Association or American Library Association organizational memberships. This poses no current risk to our library system as State Aid moneys are not spent on memberships.

The Sulphur Springs Partnership Library is closed and all library technology removed. Library staff will meet with the School District to plan for full decommissioning and removal of the collection from databases.

The Brandon Library replacement project is currently in the design phase (90% complete). Exterior elevation sketches will be brought to the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm. The next regular meeting of the Public Library Board is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2024 at Thonotosassa Library.