



TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Austin Davis Public Library

May 23, 2024

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

Staff Present: Andrew Breidenbaugh, Chely Cantrell, Renelda Sells, Janet Marnatti, Jasmine Qronfleh, Frank Colli, Allie Brazis, Hetalben Patel, Marci LaTorella, Cheryl Wolfe, Suzanne George.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT—None.

Minutes from the April 25, 2024 meeting were approved.

BUDGET REVIEW

The Library's Fiscal 2024 Budget report for April 2024 was reviewed along with the monthly activity summaries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion regarding eBooks based on an article pointing out issues experienced by public libraries nationwide due to cost structures controlled by major vendors and publishing companies. Staff provided clarification and answered questions regarding licensing limitations and ratios used for ordering eBooks.

The Library Board was asked to weigh in on a customer request for genre labels to be placed on juvenile books containing LGBT themes. After thorough discussion and consideration of staff research, it was the Library Board's consensus not to pursue the customer's suggestion.

Staff presented a summary of Decision Units included in this year's budget request. There is no word yet on whether these will be approved in the budget process.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Staff will be presenting information about the Library's afterschool programs for next month's Library Board meeting.

The upcoming retirement of Jacquelyn Zebos, Division Manager of Public Services was announced.

An article was shared regarding a proposal by the City of Tampa to use the Tampa Free Library building for an art museum to be run by University of South Florida.

An update was provided Library Administration's plans to relocate offices this year and consolidate all of our support services including the Technical Services Center.

This year's Summer Reading program is underway with many events listed on the library online calendar.

Marci LaTorella, branch manager for Austin Davis Public Library and Suzanne George, Public Service Regional Manager, were introduced.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm. The next regular meeting of the Public Library Board is scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2024 at C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Library.