Board Members Present: Bob Argus, Catherine Cottle, Patrick DeMarco, Alma Hires, Jim Johnson, James Martin (Chair), William Scheuerle, Christopher Rosbough, Laura Vickers and Jim Harkins. Kay O’Rourke and Margaret Fisher were absent.

Staff Present: Joe Stines, Director; Jacquelyn Zebos, Manager, Administrative and Reference Services; David Wullschleger, Manager, Operations; Suzanne George, Manager, Library Facilities Planning & Design; Marcee Challener, Manager, Materials & Circulation Services; Linda Gillon, Manager, Programming & User Services; Lisa Wagner, Coordinator, Administrative Services & Grants; Aracelis Putnam, Administrative Specialist; Maurice Site, Chief Librarian; Keith Allen, Principal Librarian.

Guest: Deborah Blews, Assistant County Attorney.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Minutes from the December 4, 2008 Library Board meeting were approved.

The following public comment was received:

Jenny Lind Olin, representing the American Civil Liberties Union, spoke in regards to BOCC Policy-Section Number 02.14.00.00, Abstention from Selected Recognition and Events.

Said Iravani, representing the New Tampa Friends of the Library, spoke concerning expansion of the New Tampa Library.

Ms. Challener, on behalf of the staff, recognized the Town ’N Country Friends of the Library for all their help with the opening of new Town ’N Country Library and their efforts to provide furniture and art work for the children’s room.

Committee Reports

Budget Committee
Dr. Scheuerle reported that the Budget Committee met on January 14, 2009 for a preliminary review and discussion of potential budget efficiencies and decision units for the FY2010-2011 budget. The Committee plans to present a budget recommendation for Library Board vote at the February 26th meeting. The FY10-11 budget is due to the County Administrator on March 2, 2009.

The Budget Committee will next meet on the following dates: Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 24, 2009, 2:30 p.m. at John F. Germany Public Library, Martin Luther King Room.

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Planning Committee
Mr. Argus provided a status on the Planning Committee’s work to develop a points-based ranking system for capital projects. The Committee will finalize the ranking criteria during a workshop on Thursday, January 29, 2009, 1:00—3:00 p.m. at John F. Germany, Martin Luther King Room. A report will be provided to the Library Board at the February meeting.

The grand opening and dedication of the new Seffner-Mango Library took place on January 15, 2009.

Ms. George provided an update on all library construction projects under way.

Policy & Bylaws Committee
Dr. Hires reported that the Policy & Bylaws is currently reviewing BOCC Policy-Section Number 02.14.00.00, Abstention from Selected Recognition and Events, as well as the library naming policies.

The next meeting of the Policy & Bylaws Committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2009, 3:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Library Auditorium.

Unfinished Business
Mr. Rosbough briefed the Library Board concerning the review of library security.

Mr. Martin advised the Library Board that he and Mr. Harkins have been unable to meet concerning the fundraiser (as motioned by the Library Board at their September 25, 2008 meeting) due to conflict with the Sunshine Law. Mr. Martin recommended and the Library Board was in agreement that the matter be tabled.

New Business
Mr. Stines updated the Library Board on the progress of the Friends of Library reorganization and discussed the possibility of an ad-hoc subcommittee from the Policy & Bylaws Committee to interface with staff and the Friends 501c3 Board as recommended in the library audit. The Library Board voted to approve the formation of an ad-hoc subcommittee with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Harkins as members.

Director’s Report
The St. Andrew’s Society of Tampa Bay recently unveiled a commissioned bust of poet, Robert Burns, which they have donated and is now housed at the John F. Germany Library. The unveiling was part of a celebration to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns.

The Friends of the Library will host the Four Seasons Author Series luncheon on Thursday, January 29, 2009, 12 Noon at the University Club featuring highly acclaimed television writer/producer, Stephen J. Cannell. Reservations and information concerning the Four Seasons Author Series can be obtained by calling the Friends office at (813)273-3616.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.