Attendance: John McWhirter (Chair), Brenda Staton (Vice Chair), Felicia Pecora (Secretary), Jim Johnson, Phyllis Alpert, Evan St. Ives, Shelia Spicola, Davis Gandees, Christine Kazor and Blake Casper. Candi Martin was excused.


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

The following volunteers were recognized for their many hours of service to the Library:

Upper Tampa Bay Regional Library
Jim Brennan

Town N’ Country Regional Library
Carolyn Vallone
Diane Jacques
Ginny Winters
Matty Matylewicz
Norma LeBron
Joyce Sheets
Thomas Johnson

Presentations from the Public

Robert Argus discussed the need for an additional entrance at Upper Tampa Bay Regional Library and asked that the matter be referred to the Planning Committee.

Fred Hearns, representing Robert W. Saunders, Sr. Foundation, and Miray Holmes, representing the Tampa Chapter of Jack and Jill, announced the organizations have partnered to host a grand opening gala fundraising event for the new Robert W. Saunders, Sr. Public Library and requested the Library Board’s approval of their request to serve alcoholic beverages at the event.

A citizen concern was received via email from John Stroncheck regarding police presence in the libraries. Following discussion of the issue and review of the security guard schedule, it was the consensus of the Library Board that police presence is needed for safety and prevention. The Library Board Chair will prepare a letter of reply to Mr. Stroncheck.
Minutes from the May 28, 2015 meeting were approved.

Committee Reports

Finance and Planning Committees

The Monthly Budget Report for FY14 dated May 31, 2015 was reviewed along with the Library Activity Summary for May 2015.

A report was received from the recent meeting of the Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative. There are plans to renew the Cooperative Interlocal Agreement for another year.

The library’s FY16 budget was submitted that included new positions for planned future library projects.

A State Aid Construction Grant for the future University Area Community Library has been approved. The C. Blythe Andrews, Jr. Library construction grant was also funded at a lower amount.

Staff provided an update on the library’s emergency planning and continuity of operations.

The next combined meeting of the Finance and Planning Committees is scheduled for Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 3:30 pm at John F. Germany Public Library.

Policy & Bylaws Committee

A citizen request to rename the Robert W. Saunders, Sr. Library to include the late Mrs. Helen Saunders was referred to the Ada T. Payne Friends of the Urban Libraries for input as recommended by the Policy & Bylaws Committee. Naming of any County facility must receive final approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

A Community Room Special Event Alcohol Use Request for an event co-sponsored by Robert W. Saunders Foundation and the Tampa Chapter of Jack and Jill received unanimous approval per recommendation of the Policy & Bylaws Committee.

Staff are working on a proposal to establish a fee for professional cleaning of library facility catering kitchens. A revised Fine & Fee Schedule will be brought to a future meeting.

The next meeting of the Policy & Bylaws Committee is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2015, 3:30 pm at John F. Germany Public Library.

Unfinished Business – None.
New Business

Selection of nominating committee members was made in preparation for officer elections in August. The following members were appointed by the Chair to assist in making a recommendation of officer candidates at the next meeting: Jim Johnson, Evan St. Ives, and Shelia Spicola.

The Chair related his positive experience with using the Online Library to access electronic resources and materials from handheld devices during recent family trips.

Newly appointed District 1 member, Blake Casper, was welcomed on board and encouraged to participate in one of the committees.

Jim Johnson was welcomed back from his leave of absence.

Director’s Report

An update was provided on the County Administrator’s recommended budget for FY16 which is now before the Board of County Commissioners. The County’s Director of Management & Budget will be invited to attend the September 2015 Library Board to make a presentation on indirect costs for the library.

Staff presented information on the Library’s Summer Reading Program, which offers classes, contests and events for different age groups as well as the Reading with the Rays contest through a partnership with Tampa Bay Rays.

The next meeting of the Library Board is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2015, 4 pm at John F. Germany Public Library

The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm.