AMENDED MINUTES

Attendance: Brenda Staton (Chair), Felicia Pecora (Vice Chair, Phyllis Alpert (Secretary), John McWhirter, Davis Gandees, Christine Kazor, Blake Casper, Jim Johnson, Candi Martin, Shelia Spicola, Joan Zacharias and Howard Harris were present.


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

There were no volunteers for recognition.

Minutes from the December 3, 2015 meeting were approved.

Marianne Mackey-Smith, representing the Woodside Manor Book Club, spoke regarding the library’s Book Club-in-a-Bag service.

The Library Board welcomed new members, Joan Zacharias (District 2) and Howard Harris (District 3), appointed by the Board of County Commissioners on January 6, 2016.

Committee Reports

Joint Finance and Planning Committees

The monthly budget reports were reviewed along with a source and revenue statement for the second quarter. A new category—questions answered—has been added to the library activity summary reports.

There was discussion about whether corporations may be considered for sponsorships of library spaces and facilities.

Staff briefed the Library Board on plans for promotional activities.

The following list of capital facilities unfunded priorities was approved without changes:

1. New Tampa Regional Library expansion
2. Carrollwood-area library
3. Wimauma-area library
4. Fishhawk-area regional library

The next combined meeting of the Finance and Planning Committees will be Thursday, February 25, 2 pm at Ruskin Library.
The following policies were approved as recommended by the Policy & Bylaws Committee:

- LS536, Meeting Spaces
- LS109 Requests

Updates to the Library’s unattended children policy are still in progress.

The Library Board was in full support of plans to re-establish a reciprocal borrowing agreement through the Tampa Bay Library Consortium. Staff plans to implement reciprocal borrowing as of March 1, 2016.

The next meeting of the Policy & Bylaws Committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 3 pm at Ruskin Library.

Unfinished Business

New members were asked to consider participation in one of the standing committees and email their preference to staff.

New Business—None.

Director’s Report

Open house sessions are underway to gather library user feedback as part of 2020 Vision strategic planning efforts. The next stakeholder’s education workshop is scheduled for March 10, 2016. Speaker, Brian Pichman of the Evolve Project will discuss informal spaces.

The Town ‘N Country Regional Library public art project has been delayed due to building changes.

A campaign to promote reading is being planned starting May 21, 2016 to coincide with National Reading Week.

Staff recently visited The University of Tampa’s Entrepreneurial Center and plan to collaborate with them on future activities.

The Hillsborough Literacy Council was recently awarded a $3,000 grant from the Yelp Foundation, having been nominated and voted upon by community members in the Yelp Foundation Gives Local grant contest.

The Library has reached a milestone of one million ebooks circulated through Overdrive in 2015.

Several local schools have been selected to participate in an early reading program that provides free books to children through the John Germany Youth Reading Initiative.

An overview was provided of the Friends of the Library structure and fundraising efforts in support of our libraries.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.