Attendance: Felicia Pecora (Chair), Phyllis Alpert (Vice Chair), Christine Kazor, Bob Argus, Howard Harris, Joan Zacharias, Jim Johnson, Maggie Coleman, Carmen Alvarez were present. Davis Gandees, Candi Martin and Shelley Blood (Secretary) were excused.

Staff Present: Andrew Breidenbaugh, Aracelis Chapman, Jacqueline Zebos, Sheryl Herold, Renelda Sells, Janet Mamatti, Candy Granda, Bridgett Lattimore, Chely Cantrell, David Wullschleger, Lauren Levy and Wendy Prasad.

Guest: Jason Robertson, American Land Ventures.

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

Minutes from the October 27, 2017 meeting were approved.

Presentations from the public: Denice Jordan, representing the Friends of the New Tampa Regional Library welcomed the Library Board.

Jason Robertson, Vice President of Development of American Land Ventures, presented an update regarding plans for the future downtown high rise project to be located on the property neighboring the John F. Germany Library.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Combined Finance & Planning Committees
The FY17 monthly budget reports were reviewed along with the Monthly Library Activity and Branch summaries.

A quarterly source and use statement for the fourth quarter 2017 as of November 3, 2017 was reviewed.

The current budgeted capital improvement projects and FY17 unfunded capital project request lists were distributed as a starting point for planning the CIP priorities due in February 2018.

Staff presented a report on the Repair, Replacement and Maintenance (R3M) projects underway.

The elimination of fines and fees and cash handling by branch staff has been implemented and becomes effective January 1, 2018.

The next meeting of the combined Finance & Planning Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 4 pm at Maureen B. Gauzza Library, 11211 Countryway Blvd., Tampa 33626.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The 2018 Library Board meeting schedule was approved as presented.

The Library’s holiday closing schedule for 2018 was approved including a closure on February 18, 2018 in order to conduct a staff training day.
Annual review of the bylaws resulted in the following approved changes: Finance and Planning Committees will be combined on a permanent basis; Advocacy Reports will be added as a regular item on the regular Library Board agenda.

Updates to policy LS111, Interlibrary Loan were approved. Policy LS902, Review of Library Materials was tabled for further modifications.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Argus inquired about preservation of rare books at the Law Library. Staff will bring back a cost estimate for digitization and preservation.

ADVOCACY REPORTS

Ms. Alvarez shared that her local book club and that of the John F. Germany Library will be combining their efforts in the spring of 2018.

Mr. Harris is working with a local tutor to host a youth field trip at John F. Germany Library.

Ms. Zacharias attended the recent Friends of the Library workshop where strategic planning and securing future funding for the library were discussed. She encouraged anyone interested in getting involved to please contact her.

Ms. Pecora urged members to attend Friends of the Library meetings in 2018 to reinforce their efforts in advocating for our library system.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

The following volunteers were recognized for 1,000+ hours of service to the Library.

John F. Germany Public Library
Karen McClure
John Mullen
Sheila Seig

Bloomingdale Regional Library
Carol Jones

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Sample promotional materials were distributed featuring the winning entries from the Hispanic Heritage drawing contest as well as the “Just Bring it Back” fine elimination campaign.

Next month’s Library Board meeting will include a celebration of the renaming of Upper Tampa Bay Library to the Maureen B. Gauzza Library.

Plans are underway to implement the staffing reclassification plan in January 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

The next meeting of the Library Board is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 4 pm at Maureen B. Gauzza Library, 11211 Countryway Blvd., Tampa 33626.