Members Present: Felicia Pecora (Chair), Phyllis Alpert (Vice Chair), Shelley Blood (Secretary), Carmen Alvarez, Bob Argus, Maggie Coleman, Jim Johnson and Vernon Noronha

Members Absent: Candi Martin

Guests: Andrew Breidenbaugh, Aracelis Chapman, Sheryl Herold, Bridgett Lattimore, David Wullschleger, Janet Mamatti, Chely Cantrell, Janet Mamatti and Roland Ford

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm with a quorum present.

Minutes from July 26, 2018 and August 23, 2018 were approved.

There were no presentations from the public.

Welcome Vernon Noronha, new member representing District 2, appointed by the Board of County Commissioners on August 15, 2018.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Planning Committee

The FY18 monthly budget reports for July and August 2018 were reviewed along with the Monthly Library Activity and Branch summaries. The Activity Summary for August 2018 indicated high percentages in meeting room attendance due to early voting and in registered card holders as a result of the HAAL Pass program implementation. A year-end report on HAAL Pass use will be brought back to a future meeting.

Staff provided an update on upcoming facility improvements at Jan Platt Regional Library in order to mitigate noise issues and make more efficient use of space. Impacts to the library include a partial closure 11/26 through December 10 with limited hours and services. The children’s area will be closed 12/11 through 1/31/2019.

The C. Blythe Andrews Jr. Library construction is 75% complete. Staff presented photos of the construction and provided information regarding efforts to preserve the grand oak tree located at the site.

The Library’s budget request has been approved as part of the County’s FY19 budget process including Capital improvement projects.

The next meeting of the Finance & Planning Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 25, 3 pm at 78th Street Community Library.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None.

NEW BUSINESS
Staff briefed the Library Board regarding an incident at Lutz Library involving parental concerns over the appropriate use of the library’s public computers.

Melissa Falvey, the new branch manager for North Tampa Library was introduced.

A proposed draft of the 2019 Library Board meeting schedule was distributed for input in preparation for approval in October.

The following members have been selected to form a nominating committee for the election of officers to take place in December: Carmen Alvarez, Candi Martin and Shelley Blood with Jim Johnson as alternate.

Staff addressed an inquiry regarding the water dispensers at Maureen B. Gauzza Library. They have been working with Real Estate and Facilities to get the filters replaced on all water dispenser units.

Annual review of the Library Board Bylaws will take place next month, and all were reminded to email any comments or suggested edits to staff.

ADVOCACY REPORTS

Phyllis Alpert led a meeting for OSHER Lifelong Learning at which she discussed the Library and provided information about its recent initiatives and services.

Shelley Blood had the opportunity during a training at the Tampa Bay History Center to share information about the Library’s passport acceptance program.

Felicia Pecora recently participated in an entrepreneur course for veterans that led to a video filmed by WEDU in which she had the opportunity to talk about library. The video will premiere during a public event hosted by NPR’s Florida Matters on October 9 at USF St. Petersburg.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

A library promotional music video was created by and featured Jarrell Pulliam, a Library Service & Technology Guide from New Tampa Regional Library. The music video was produced in partnership with Hillsborough Television, the Parks & Recreation Department, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Tampa Bay Lightning. It has received local news coverage, shared on social media and has been viewed 4,000 so far.

Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library (THPL) has been recognized as a 2018 Top Innovator by the Urban Libraries Council, a national organization that works to support library efforts, with an Honorable Mention in the Organizational Change and Strategic Management category for our new staffing model.

A final copy of the Library’s strategic service plan and an updated version of the At-A-Glance publication were provided to be used in community outreach and advocacy efforts.

The final brochure for the Free Yourself campaign is complete. The brochures will be used as a marketing tool for the library awareness campaign geared toward those who are not
familiar with the library. This campaign is being done in collaboration with Baker & Taylor, which will be tracking success of the program.

A limited run of HCPLC logo shopping bags made out of recycle materials will be offered at library locations.

The Library as a Cooperative has been working with a consultant to envision what a modern transformative urban might look like. The final report is now complete and will be presented to the Library Board at the December meeting.

Staff shared an overview and statistics from the 2018 Summer Reading program activities and featured events with feedback from participants.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

The next meeting of the Library Board is scheduled for Thursday, October 25, 2018, 4 pm at 78th Street Community Library, 7625 Palm River Road, Tampa 33619.