

TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
TEMPLE TERRACE PUBLIC LIBRARY
SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

Board Members Present: Chair, Jim Johnson, James Martin, Bob Argus, Dora Reeder, Laura Vickers, William Scheuerle, and James Harkins. Excused: Kay O'Rourke, Michelle Schofner, Margaret Fisher, Sandra Cameron, and Alma Hires.

Staff Present: Joe Stines, Director of Library Services; Marcee Challener, Manager, Materials & Circulation Services; Linda Gillon, Manager, Programming; David Wullschleger, Manager, Operations; Jackie Zebos, Manager, Administrative & Reference Services; Suzy George, Chief Librarian; Jean Peters, Chief Librarian; Barbara Marquette, Administrative Specialist; and Assistant County Attorney Alicia Gonzalez.

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was present at 4:10 p.m.

Approval of the Library Board Minutes of August 24, 2006. **Ms. Vickers moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Martin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Comments from the Public None.

Committee Reports

Budget Committee: Chair, William Scheuerle stated that the Committee received a briefing on the FY07 budget. Library materials will have a four percent increase, approximately \$6 million. The Library Taxing District Millage is unchanged at .6923. Employee Merit and Market Equity adjustments will be based on an average of 2.5%. The Committee was told that the Board of County Commissioners will be looking for leaner budgets in FY08-09. The initial budget is due March/April 2007.

Mr. Stines stated that two decision units had been approved: the book budget was increased to cover the need at Bloomingdale and Upper Tampa Bay and effective October 1; Suzy George's position will be upgraded to Manager.

Planning Committee: Chair, James Martin stated that their main concern is the Westgate Regional Library. Mr. Grajales will make a presentation to the Library Board during the meeting. Mr. Stines stated that he and Mr. Wullschleger had met with Assistant County Administrator, Manus O'Donnell and Assistant County Administrator; Carl Harness (supervises Architectural Services and Procurement Departments). Due to the fact that Architectural Services has received concerns from potential construction bidders the bids have been extended until October 4th. Ms. George will be the Library's representative on the panel that will award the bid. County Administrator Pat Bean will schedule a presentation with the Executive Team after the bids have been opened. Assistant County Administrator Manus O'Donnell has scheduled a follow-up meeting with the Department Directors on Thursday, October 5th.

In order for Library Services to receive the construction grant the contract has to be awarded by the Board of County Commissioners no later than December 6, 2006. This gives Architectural Services and the Procurement Department approximately one month to negotiate the contract. The projected timeline is that the Evaluation Committee will meet on October 5th, publish top bidders on October 9, and negotiations October 16-19, contract awarded by BOCC on December 9.

Mr. Stines reported that Real Estate Director, Mike Kelly feels that the storefront property will still be available in the event the library has to move during construction.

Mr. Grajales presented the Westgate conceptual drawings and explained that many contractors felt that keeping the existing library open during construction was too complicated and requested an alternate bid process. Mr. Grajales stated that a savings of eight hundred thousand to one million dollars as well as eight months to a year could be achieved by relocating the library during construction. Mr. Stines stated that it will cost approximately five hundred thousand to relocate. Discussion followed. **It was the consensus of the Library Board to call a Special Planning Committee Meeting to discuss the Westgate Library bid on October 5 at 11:00 a.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library.** After this meeting Mr. Stines will present the Planning Committee's recommendations to County Administration.

Mr. Argus asked, "When will construction begin and how long will it take?" Mr. Grajales stated that the best case scenario would be to receive the Permission to Proceed in January 2007; worst case would be March 2007. Construction would take approximately two years for the total project to be completed. The library portion will take approximately fourteen to sixteen months. If the existing library is demolished it would save eight months to a year on the entire project.

Mr. Grajales updated the Library Board on other library projects: He displayed the Seffner-Mango floor plans, a fifteen thousand square foot building, which he had discussed with the Friends. He stated that in order to save time and design money the Friends have agreed to use the Upper Tampa Bay floor plan with a few modifications.

A schematic design of a twenty-four thousand square foot building for North Tampa was shown. Contract negotiations have been delayed due to differences with the City of Tampa. Mr. Stines will discuss this with Mayor Iorio. A construction grant application will be submitted in April.

Fleishman Garcia will be the architect for Turkey Creek. The School Board is preparing an interlocal for a 99 year lease. It was decided not to move the building due to costs and the understanding that the site may also be considered historic.

SouthShore is on time. The contractor has ordered the exterior lighting which will take approximately four to six weeks to arrive and will cost approximately six to eight thousand dollars. Temporary lighting will be used in the interim. The dedication is scheduled for November 9, 2006.

Mr. Grajales was invited to attend the October 26 Library Board meeting.

Mr. Grajales stated that construction for the Upper Tampa sign is scheduled to begin within the next two weeks.

Ms. Vickers asked whether “green” construction had ever been explored. Mr. Grajales stated that “green” lighting was not very dependable and more costly to maintain. However, Architectural Services does make use of energy efficient building practices. Mr. Stines stated that Sarasota County has built a “green library” and suggested that the Library Board Planning Committee may like to tour that building. Mr. Wullschleger will contact Sarasota County.

Mr. Martin stated that a presentation regarding a possible library site at the Triple Creek development was given by Sue Murphy – President, D & M Consulting Group, Inc.; Bruce Kaschyk, AICP, Senior Vice President, Genis Group; and Shelly Bushway, Land Acquisitions Manager, Centex Homes West Florida Division. Triple Creek is located on Balm Riverview Road and between Balm Boyette Road and Big Bend Road. The project has been approved for two thousand forty-five (2,045) units and currently four hundred (400) units are being permitted. The town center, which is being built to be available to the public, will include a community center, commercial buildings, town homes, a fire station, a nine hundred fifty (950) student elementary school and a park. There has been discussion of having a library in the town center. If there is interest by the Library Board in having a library at Triple Creek the preference of building, donation of land, or a lease build option would be discussed at a later time.

Policy and Bylaws Committee: No meeting was held this month. Mr. Argus stated that the Displays policy was under revision and that there was a holiday coming up at the end of October. He asked whether the Committee anticipated having a decision for the upcoming holiday season. Mr. Stines asked the Committee to consider making this a priority at their October meeting.

Unfinished Business

A copy of the letter of appreciation to Patrice Koerper and the Early Voting statistics were distributed to the Board members.

New Business - None

Director’s Report - Mr. Stines stated that Library Services has a new Assistant County Attorney, Janet McDonald. He met with her this week; she lives in Lakeland and uses her home library regularly. Mr. Stines feels she will be a strong asset.

Mr. Stines updated the Library Board on Sulphur Springs. Mr. Wullschleger and Mr. Stines met with the Hillsborough County School Board on September 28 and reviewed the initial drawings for the project. It appears that the School Board would like for the County to build the addition on to the existing building. Mr. Stines stated that this would be an ideal project for the Library to apply for a state construction grant.

Several Board members, citizens, and elected officials attended the Governors visit at the West Tampa Library.

Board members should have received an invitation to the Imagination Library kickoff on Tuesday, October 3 at 10:00 a.m. at the Children's Resource Center on Fowler Avenue. Fifteen to twenty children born on or after September 1, 2006 have been registered at this point. Approximately 2/3 was English speaking and 1/3 were Spanish speaking. Healthy Start has been distributing enrollment cards in the hospitals.

Mr. Stines stated that Senator Victor Crist is working with Hillsborough County to transfer one million dollars of CIT storm water funds to acquire the land for the University Area library. This project will now have CIT and Library District Taxing District funding.

Mr. Argus stated that the next Board meeting was scheduled at the John F. Germany Public Library but the Board had also received an invitation to attend the First Annual National Friends of the Library Week celebration at Aston Gardens on the same date. He asked whether the Library Board would consider moving the meeting to Aston Gardens.

A quorum was not present so a vote was not taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Meeting Dates:

Budget - Tuesday, December 5, 2006 - 3:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library

Planning Special Call Meeting - Thursday, October 5, 2006 – 11:00 a.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library

Planning Committee - Tuesday, October 24, 2006 – 2:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library

Policy & Bylaws - Thursday, October 26, 2006 – 2:30 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library

Library Board – Thursday, October 26, 2006 - 4:00 p.m. at the John F. Germany Public Library