

Minutes
Board of Library Trustees Meeting
February 11th, 2016
Willowbranch Library
2875 Park Street

Present:

Erin Vance Skinner, Chair
Guy K. Anderson, Trustee
Sybil Ansbacher, Trustee
Charlie Kleeman, Trustee
Mario Payne, Trustee
Gerald Reid, Trustee

Absent:

Tim Anderson, Secretary
Marc Hardesty, Trustee
Ronnie King, Vice-Chair
Jackie Perry, Trustee
Dr. Brenda Simmons-Hutchins,
Foundation Liaison

Staff:

Barbara A. B. Gubbin, Library Director
Jennifer Giltrop, Deputy Director,
Public Services
Mark Merritt, Deputy Director,
Administration & Finance
Gretchen Mitchell, Assistant Director,
Support Services
Chris Boivin, Assistant Director,
Community Relations & Marketing
Richard Mott, Manager for Strategic
Initiatives
Aubrey Winship, Facilities Manager
Marshelle Berry, Region Manager,
West Region
Mitesh Sangani, Conference Center
Manager
Andrew Herron, Executive Assistant to
the Director

Others Present:

Jamie Self, Director of
Development, Jacksonville Public
Library Foundation

Friends:

Margaret Smith, Friends of the
Jacksonville Public Library
Celia Miller, Friends of the Dallas
Graham Library
Roxanne Henkle, Friends of the
Willowbranch Library
Judy Klein, Friends of the Murray Hill
Library
Melvin Turnage, Friends of the
Brentwood Library
Ed Zoller, Friends of the South
Mandarin Library

1. Call to Order

Chair Erin Vance Skinner called the meeting to order at 12:15PM. A quorum was present by such time as action items were considered.

2. Presentation

Scott Adams, Branch Manager for the Willowbranch Library, discussed the activities and history of the branch, which has served the Riverside-Avondale area for 85 years and recently reopened after extensive repairs from flooding damage.

3. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Sybil Ansbacher moved to approve the Board Minutes for January 14th, 2016. Trustee Mario Payne seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

4. Chair's Report

Chair Skinner reported near-term events of relevance to the Board: The 27th Annual Unveiling of the Jacksonville Black History Calendar occurred on January 21st at the Main Library, with former Council Member Denise Lee representing Mayor Curry, Council Members Reggie Brown, Garrett Dennis, Joyce Morgan, Sam Newby, and Jim Love representing the City Council, Teresa Elan Williams representing Senator Audrey Gibson, and Milan Thompson representing Representative Mia Jones. Chair Skinner thanked Dr. Brenda Simmons-Hutchins for being the lead "architect" of the calendar for 27 years. The 2016 Braille Challenge was held at the Main library on January 28th with much media coverage. Chair Skinner thanked Trustees Jackie Perry, Sybil Ansbacher, and Charlie Kleeman, and Deputy Director Jennifer Giltrop and Manager for Strategic Initiatives Richard Mott for joining her in Tallahassee on January 28th to advocate for State Aid to Libraries on FLA Library Day. The group met with Senator Aaron Bean, Representatives Janet Adkins, Reggie Fullwood, Mia Jones, Charles McBurney, and Lake Ray, and with aides to Senator Audrey Gibson and Representative Jay Fant. She invited all present to continue to advocate for State Aid throughout the month. The appointment of Dr. Bill Mason to the Board of Library Trustees continues to advance through the City Council and its committees. Barbara Gubbin and Chair Skinner met with Ken Babby, owner of the Jacksonville Suns, on Wednesday February 3rd to explore partnership opportunities.

5. Committee Reports

- a) Finance Committee – Trustee Mario Payne reported figures discussed at the latest meeting of the Finance Committee and proposed the action item listed under "New Business," below.
- b) Foundation Liaison – Dr. Jamie Self, Director of the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation, reported recent and upcoming events of interest concerning the Foundation. The Foundation Board has two new members, Kaitlyn Weatherly and Zi Hillin. Mayor and Ms. Curry will attend the Foundation's evening reception on February 25th. \$1500 was raised at the recent Book It 5K run.

6. New Business — Approval of the FY 2017 Capital Improvement Plan

Director Barbara Gubbin presented the Jacksonville Public Library's proposed FY 2017 Capital Improvement Plan, which proposes funding for work on children's centers at the Highlands and Webb Wesconnett Libraries, renovations to the Beaches Library, collaborative spaces at the Main Library, and funds for new Dallas Graham, Brentwood, and Oceanway Libraries. If approved by the Board, the plan would be presented to the city's Internal Capital Improvement Plan Committee for consideration.

Trustees discussed complexities of the plan: commitments involved in acquiring land for an Oceanway Library, the comparative possibility of leasing or owning the land, the possibility that a better piece of land might become available. Ultimately, Trustees decided to endorse the plan as written.

Trustee Mario Payne moved from the Finance Committee to approve the proposed 2017 Capital Improvement Plan. By unanimous consent, the plan was approved.

Trustee Payne thanked Barbara Gubbin for her work on the plan, and she thanked in turn Facilities Manager Aubrey Winship and Deputy Director Mark Merritt for their work.

7. Director's Report

Director Gubbin shared highlights of her Director's Report to the Board for January 2016. She thanked those who traveled to Florida Legislative Day in Tallahassee in late January to advocate for State Aid. She reported that Mayor Curry will soon reorganize the city government, placing the library under an "Office of Neighborhood Services" rather than under its current "Department of Intra-Governmental Services."

8. Trustee Comments and Reports on Five Core Areas of Responsibility

Trustee Charlie Kleeman reported on his recent work in Tallahassee with the Florida Legislative Day delegation from Jacksonville Public Library to advocate for library related issues such as State Aid to Libraries.

9. Friends' Reports

Margaret Smith reported on the Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library's book sale. She and the Friends were thanked for the generous amount that will be given to Jacksonville Public Library this year. Ed Zoller reported on the Friends of the South Mandarin Library book sale, and Celia Miller reported on efforts of the Friends of the Dallas Graham Library to recruit new Board members.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2PM.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MARCH 10TH, 2016