

**Minutes
Board of Library Trustees Meeting
June 8th, 2017
Main Library
303 North Laura Street**

Present:

Ronnie King, Chair
Tim J. Anderson, Vice-Chair
Mario Payne, Secretary
Sybil Ansbacher, Foundation Liaison
Guy K. Anderson, Trustee
Jill Dame, Trustee
Charlie Kleeman, Trustee
Jackie Perry, Trustee
Dr. Brenda R. Simmons-Hutchins,
Trustee
Dr. Bill Mason, Trustee

Absent:

Marc Hardesty, Trustee
Gerald Reid, Trustee

Staff:

Barbara A. B. Gubbin, Library
Director
Jennifer Giltrop, Deputy Director,
Public Services
Mark Merritt, Deputy Director,
Administration & Finance
Richard Mott, Manager, Strategic
Initiatives,
Chris Boivin, Assistant Director,
Community Relations and
Marketing
Gretchen Mitchell, Assistant Director,
Support Services
Julie McNeil, Assistant Director for
Public Services
Amber Holley, Manager, Youth
Services
Lisa Buggs, Coordinator, Lifelong
Learning & Community
Engagement
Andrew Herron, Executive Assistant
to the Director

Others Present:

Dr. Johnny Gaffney, Mayor's Liaison
to Boards and Commissions
Haleigh Hutchison, Executive
Council Assistant, Council
Member Tommy Hazouri
Tia Leathers, Board Member Ex-
Officio, Duval County Public
Schools
Jim McCain, Assistant General
Counsel
Jamie Self, Executive Director,
Jacksonville Public Library
Foundation

Margaret Smith, Friends of the
Jacksonville Public Library
Sharon Coon, Friends of the
Brentwood Library
Melvin Turnage, Friends of the
Brentwood Library
Jashaiya-Lee Daniels, Friends of the
Brentwood Library
Roxanne Henkle, Friends of the
Willowbranch Library
Judy Klein, Friends of the Murray Hill
Library
Joshua Messinger, Friends of the
Beaches Library

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Ronnie King called the meeting to order shortly after 12:00PM. A quorum was present. He welcomed Tia Mackey Leathers, newly appointed Ex-Officio Liaison to the Board from Duval County Public Schools (DCPS).

2. Honors and Recognition

The Friends of the Brentwood Library honored retiring Library Director Barbara Gubbin for her 12 years of service to the system. Guest Jashaiya Lee Daniels delivered the address, aided by Friends of Brentwood Founder Sharon Coon and President Melvin Turnage. Director Gubbin thanked the Friends for their hard work and dedication to the Brentwood Library.

3. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Brenda Simmons-Hutchins moved to approve the Library Board Minutes of May 11th, 2017.

Trustee Jill Dame seconded the motion. Approved.

4. Chair's Report

Chair King discussed recent and upcoming events of relevance to the Board: Barbara Gubbin's retirement celebration will occur June 15th at the Main Library. The library's proposed FY 2018 budget will be heard by the Mayor's Budget Review Committee on June 13th; Mayor Lenny Curry will announce his proposed budget on July 17th at 9AM in the City Council chambers. Council Member Anna Brosche will serve as City Council President starting July 1st. All members of the Library Director Selection Committee, which will seek a permanent replacement for Director Gubbin, are confirmed: Trustees Ronnie King and Jill Dame, Former Board Chairs Brenda Simmons-Hutchins and Erin Vance Skinner, Foundation Chair Kevin Hyde, WJCT President and CEO Michael Boylan, and retired Florida State College Jacksonville North Campus President Barbara Darby. Deputy Director Jennifer L. Giltrop will serve as Interim Library Director starting July 1st, per the Board's action in May.

5. Director's Report

Director Barbara Gubbin summarized highlights of her Director's Report, which was provided in written form. She explained that the library continues to encounter delays in funding approvals for repairs and upgrades at the Brentwood Library and noted approval of a design contract with VRL Architects for renovations on the Highlands and Webb Wesconnett Libraries' children's rooms. She reported that Governor Rick Scott has vetoed Innovative Technology Grants and funding necessary to continue the Career Online High School program at JPL. She mentioned that a recently authenticated and appraised Augusta Savage sculpture in the library's stock will be unveiled soon at a public event.

6. Presentation: the Summer Learning Program

Amber Holley, Manager, Youth Services, and Lisa Buggs, Coordinator, Lifelong Learning and Community Engagement, reported on the library's

Summer Learning program for Children, Teens, and Adults, "Build a Better World This Summer at the Library," which is aimed at helping children avoid the "summer slide," whereby students' reading skills fall behind when school is out, a phenomenon that disproportionately effects children in lower income brackets.

Chair King asked if it might be possible for the program to target the most disadvantaged students in particular. Ms. Holley reported that the library is investigating that possibility and noted that the program targets youth camps. Tia Leathers, Ex-Officio Trustee, Duval County Public Schools, offered to assist Ms. Holley with logistical aspects.

7. Committee Reports

Governance Committee – Did not meet.

Finance Committee – Committee Chair Mario Payne reviewed financial reports discussed at the latest meeting.

Library Director Selection Committee – Will meet June 14th.

ad Hoc Committee on Capital Improvements Co-Chair Guy Anderson reported on continuing discussions with Citizen Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) Number 6 and Council Member Reggie Gaffney on public demand for a library in far north Jacksonville.

Per Foundation Liaison Sybil Ansbacher, Foundation Executive Director Dr. Jamie Self reported on recent events of relevance to the **Jacksonville Public Library Foundation**, including the Hi\$5 campaign, the Community First Credit Union Campaign, discussions with Publix, and the Foundation's Board giving campaigns.

Personnel Committee – Did not meet.

8. Strategic Plan – Status Report & Discussion

Richard Mott, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, presented stakeholder input and customer feedback data that has been gathered for use in developing the library's Strategic Plan. A topic Mr. Mott broached to trustees was whether the library should continue to target customer demand broadly or focus specifically on areas of greatest need – literacy in disadvantaged areas, for instance. Trustees Mario Payne and Guy Anderson discussed what age groups the library should market to, in light of information suggesting that the customer base will age, a national trend. These questions will be borne in mind during the drafting of the Strategic Plan.

9. Old Business – None

10. New Business – None

11. Trustee Comments

Trustees shared details of their recent Board related activities.

12. Mayor's Office and Ex-Officio Reports

Dr. Johnny Gaffney, Mayor's Liaison to Boards and Commissions, noted that candidates to replace outgoing Board Members Jackie Perry and Brenda Simmons-Hutchins are being reviewed by the Administration. Director Gubbin noted that trustee terms expire in five weeks, yet installing new trustees requires a minimum of two months, making news of this review welcome. Tia Leathers, Ex-Officio Liaison to the Board, DCPS, discussed Parent Academy, Summer Learning, and "Pitching for Parents," an event that will occur at an upcoming game of the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp.

13. Friends Reports

Friends groups shared their recent and upcoming activities. Margaret Smith of the Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library noted that she would soon be President of the organization, and Joshua Messinger of the Friends of the Beaches Library reported on efforts to turn the branch's atrium into an art gallery.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned shortly before 2PM.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES JULY 13TH, 2017.