



MEMORANDUM

June 22nd, 2018

**TO: Dr. Chery L. Brown, Director/Council Secretary
Jacksonville City Council**

**FROM: Ronnie King II
Chair, Board of Library Trustees, JPL**

**CC: Hon. Doyle Carter, Chair, City Council Rules Committee
Paula Shoup, Information Systems Administrator, City Council
Boards and Commissions – File Copy
Carol Owens, Chief of Legislative Services
Tim Rogers, Library Director, JPL
Julie McNeil, Deputy Director, Public Services, JPL
Gretchen Mitchell, Deputy Director, Support Services, JPL**

SUBJECT: Annual Report: Board of Library Trustees, Jacksonville Public Library

In accordance with Ordinance 2016-521-E, the Board of Library Trustees submits the following report of its activities for the prior year:

Prior Year's Activities

The Board of Library Trustees met monthly from July 2017 through June 2018 and for special sessions. In our "Board Work Day," trustees determined system priorities going forward. The Board's Finance and Governance Committees met as needed to monitor library finances, approve budgets, vet library policy, and advise the Library Director. Ad hoc committees on "Capital Improvements" and "Library Director Selection" met to address capital improvements needs and to recruit a Library Director to replace outgoing Director Barbara A. B. Gubbin, who retired June 30th, 2017. The Board supervised Deputy Director Jennifer H. Giltrop as Interim Director for seven months. Then, in January 2018, the library hired Tim Rogers as Library Director, a choice made after a long and careful national search conducted in partnership with COJ Employee Services.

Current Members

The Board elected the following officers in Fall 2017 to serve its October 2017-September 2018 Board Year. (Library Board Years are identical to COJ Fiscal Years.)

- Ronnie King II, Chair,
- Timothy J. Anderson, Vice-Chair,
- Jill Dame, Secretary, and
- Sybil Ansbacher, Foundation Liaison.

The Board welcomed new trustee Carlo Fassi, who replaced outgoing trustee Dr. Brenda R. Simmons Hutchins, and new trustee Celia Nass, who replaced outgoing trustee Dr. William C. (Bill) Mason. Remaining trustees are:

- Guy K. Anderson
- W. Marc Hardesty
- Charles Kleeman
- Gerald Reid
- Mario Payne, and
- Jackie Perry.

City Council Members Tommy Hazouri and Jim Love served as liaisons to the City Council, and Tia Leathers, Director of Family and Community Involvement for Duval County Public Schools, served as Ex-Officio liaison to the public school system.

All voting trustees are given orientations to the Board and all are required to complete mandatory ethics training.

Identification of Vacancy Positions

The Board is currently in need of a new trustee from At Large District 5, as Trustee Jackie Perry's term expired one year ago. The Library is working with Boards and Commissions on this and other matters, particularly trustee renewals, as Library Trustees conventionally seek second terms.

Assessment of Effectiveness

As I related to the City Council Rules Committee in May of 2017:

“We regard ourselves as an effective Board. We've guided and approved library policy on student library accounts, circulation, fines, the Code of Conduct, and other policies. During lean times, we've advocated to the City Council to prevent branch closures, to partially restore hours of weekly service, to partially restore funds for collections, and retain funds collected from fines for Capital Improvements, all of which you and your colleagues on the City Council made a reality. We also advocated for legislation regarding the Main Library Conference Center, after which the Conference Center became self-supporting.”