

St. Tammany Parish Library
Board of Control Meeting
December 13th, 2022
Covington Library
310 W. 21st Ave.
Covington, LA 70433
6:30 P.M.

Public Comment: A three (3) minute time limit is established for each member of the public wishing to speak (for or against) an item on the Agenda. Note: In the case of an appeal of a Statement of Concern decision, the person making the appeal is given 5 minutes to speak.

AGENDA

Call to order by President and Roll Call by Director

1. Approval of the minutes of the Strategic Planning Workshop special meeting that was held on October 22, 2022 and the minutes of the October 25, 2022 regular board meeting.
 - Discussion
 - Public Comment
 - Vote
2. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Financial Reports – October and November 2022
 - Discussion
 - Public Comment
 - Vote
 - B. Board Meeting Dates 2023 Amendment
 - Discussion
 - Public Comment
 - Vote
 - C. Election of Officers
 - Discussion
 - Public Comment
 - Vote
 - D. Alcohol Request for the Library Foundation
 - Discussion
 - Public Comment
 - Vote

E. Rules and Regulations Update Chapter 4

- Section 407 Challenged materials
- Section 409 Access to materials by minors
 - Discussion
 - Public Comment
 - Vote

F. Resolution to extend time to allow for procedural due process of statements of concern received on and after November 21st, 2022.

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

G. Resolution regarding temporary disposition of challenged materials

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

H. Resolution regarding location of graphic novels for adults and teens

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

I. Statement of Concern Appeal – *I am Jazz*

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

J. Statement of Concern Appeal – *My Rainbow*

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

K. Director's Report

- Discussion
- Public Comment

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Strategic Planning Committee Update

4. Public Comment

5. Adjournment

St. Tammany Parish Library
LBOC Strategic Planning Workshop - Special Meeting
October 22, 2022
Madisonville Branch
1123 Main Street
Madisonville, LA 70447
10:00 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Becky Taylor, President. Kelly LaRocca, Director, called the roll and declared that a quorum was present.

Present: Bill Allin, Carmen Butler, Dr. Argiro Morgan, Becky Taylor, Susie Tosso

Absent: Mary Reneau, Ann Shaw

1. Strategic Planning Workshop – Carson Block and Susan Kent

Carson Block and Susan Kent presented the findings and initial directions of the planning process. They discussed the work done to date. They discussed the key challenges to the library. They discussed the development of the draft of the strategic plan. The Board participated in a mission and vision statement development exercise. The next steps in the process were discussed.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. A. Morgan and seconded by Susie Tosso. All were in favor, none were opposed, and two were absent. The motion carried.

Mary Reneau, Secretary

St. Tammany Parish Library
Board of Control Meeting
October 25, 2022
Slidell Library
555 Robert Blvd.
Slidell, LA 70458
6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Becky Taylor, President. Kelly LaRocca, Director, called the roll and declared that a quorum was present.

Present: Carmen Butler, Ann Shaw, Becky Taylor, Susie Tosso

Absent: Bill Allin, Dr. Argiro Morgan, Mary Reneau

B. Taylor explained the public comment process. Anyone wishing to comment will need to complete a public comment card. There will be a three-minute time limit for public comment. She asked for people to silence their cell phones, be considerate of their neighbor, and do not interrupt the library reports. The library will not engage in discussion at the board meeting. If someone has a question during public comment, the question will be noted and the board will attempt to answer the question at the end of the public comment period. B. Taylor noted there is a period for general public comment at the end of the agenda. B. Taylor asked for the public to speak into the microphone during public comment, as the audio is being recorded for the purpose of typing the minutes of the meeting.

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Library Board of Control that was held on September 27, 2022.

There were no suggested corrections to the minutes. S. Tosso moved to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2022 meeting. It was seconded by A. Shaw. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Reports – September 2022

K. LaRocca reported that the library has received 99% of expected ad valorem revenue and 100% of state revenue sharing for the year. The budget percentage for this point in the year is 75%. Revenues are at 74.76% and Expenditures are at 71.47%. K. LaRocca explained that we

have received more revenue than expected in fines and fees due to patron printing returning to pre-pandemic levels. Interest Income is higher because interest rates have increased. Donations are expected to be received from the Friends of the Library later this year. K. LaRocca reviewed the expenditures and explained any lines that are over or under budget. Lines that are off balance will be amended later during the budget amendment. K. LaRocca referenced the Capital Fund Report from the Parish and the Capital Projects spreadsheet. All of the projects that the Board has approved are on the reports. A. Shaw asked if cameras were installed in the new Slidell Branch parking lot. K. LaRocca explained that we were able to redirect some of the cameras on the side of the building facing the parking lot.

B. Taylor asked for public comment. There was public comment from A.G. Crowe. He asked what percentage of the budget comes from taxpayers at the local and state level. K. LaRocca stated 97% of our budget comes from local ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing. State revenue sharing is calculated using a formula that gives reimbursement to parishes who have homestead exemption. Those are local taxes, not state tax dollars. The remaining 3% is from fines, fees, donations, and interest income.

C. Butler moved to approve the September 2022 Financial Reports. It was seconded by S. Tosso. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

B. 2022 Fall Budget Amendment

K. LaRocca reviewed the 2022 Fall Budget Amendment. She reported that there is an overall increase in revenue of \$38,967. She reported that increases and decreases in individual expenditure lines are due to the budget performance during the first three quarters of 2022, continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the new Annex building renovation being shifted to 2023. K. LaRocca referred to the budget amendment narrative and spreadsheets and gave explanations for increases and decreases in budget lines.

Any unused money at the end of the year becomes Prior Years' Operating Revenue. The projected fund balance for December 31, 2022 is \$5,504,878. This figure is half of one year's worth of operating revenue and are dedicated to the following purposes: Operational reserves for running the library until we receive our first significant portion of our millage from the Parish, disaster and emergency funds, 4th quarter 2022 payment for retirement, and dedications for Causeway, Mandeville, and Slidell furniture projects. The auditor will move charges initiated in 2022 but are paid in 2023 to the year in which they were incurred. Additionally, the last payroll period of the year falls in 2022 and 2023. The auditor will move some of the cost to 2022. This leaves an unassigned savings of \$197,416. K. LaRocca noted that the funds for a Compensation and Classification consultant that was discussed at the previous meeting would come from these savings.

An increase in revenue of \$38,967 is forecasted, due primarily to more print fees collected and higher interest rates. The amendment shows a decrease in expenditures of \$65,904 due to the Annex move occurring in 2023 and open positions throughout the year. The budget is balanced and leaves \$ 104,931 of revenue unbudgeted. Each department was allocated the funds to enable their plans for the 2022 fiscal year. K. LaRocca is confident that the library has adequate funds to meet its goals.

B. Taylor asked for public comment. A.G. Crowe asked if the library receives revenue from the American Library Association directly or through the Louisiana Library Association. K. LaRocca answered that we do not. He asked if we receive any grants, funds, or income from those sources. K. LaRocca replied that we have not received any grants from those associations this year.

T. DiMaggio read the resolution to amend the budget aloud. S. Tosso moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Operational Budget Fall Amendment Adoption Resolution. It was seconded by A. Shaw. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

C. Extension of the Annex Hwy 36 Lease (Old Annex)

K. LaRocca reported that the current lease for the Annex building, which houses the Technical Services and Maintenance departments, expires on December 31, 2022. The new building should be under construction starting in December 2022. We have the opportunity to extend the lease until April 30, 2023 at the current rate of \$3,000 per month.

A. Shaw asked if the new Annex building is where we will be moving furniture upstairs and installing the elevator. K. LaRocca clarified that we are able to furnish the upstairs now, but the downstairs needs to be renovated to suit the Technical Services department's workflow needs. K. LaRocca explained that the elevator will be a separate project.

B. Taylor asked for public comment. There was no public comment. A. Shaw moved to approve the addendum to extend the Annex Hwy 36 Lease. It was seconded by C. Butler. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

D. Designation of Capital Funds – Elevator for New Annex Building

K. LaRocca reported that the new Annex building will need an elevator to ease the moving of I.T. and Public Relations equipment up and down between the first and second floors. This will also provide overall ADA accessibility for the building. This will be a separate project on the Capital Budget. The cost of the elevator is \$165,048. K. LaRocca noted that we do have the funds to cover this cost, as previously presented in the financial reports. The Board will need to

vote to include this in the capital projects list. The cost estimate from the Parish Engineering Office and a sample resolution is presented for the Board's consideration. A. Shaw asked if it will be an industrial elevator. K. LaRocca stated that it is meant to carry both people and the load of heavy equipment. T. DiMaggio read the resolution aloud. B. Taylor asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

C. Butler moved to approve the resolution to designate capital funds for the Technical Services and Maintenance building elevator. It was seconded by A. Shaw. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

E. 2023 Holiday Schedule

B. Geiger presented the proposed 2023 holiday schedule for the Board's consideration. The day before Christmas is a Sunday. The Employee Handbook's designated holiday is exchanged for Veterans Day. The schedule lists 15 official holidays and three system-wide closed days. B. Taylor asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

S. Tosso moved to approve the 2023 holiday schedule. It was seconded by C. Butler. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

F. 2023 Board Meeting Schedule

B. Geiger presented the proposed 2023 LBOC board meeting schedule. The Board will need to select a date in February for the first meeting of the year, as the year-end financial reports will not be complete in time for a late January meeting. The Board will also need to select an early December meeting date, as the end of November coincides with the Thanksgiving holiday week. The Board selected February 7, 2023 as the first meeting date and December 12, 2023 as the last meeting date. B. Taylor asked for public comment. There was no public comment. C. Butler moved to approve the 2023 board meeting schedule. It was seconded by S. Tosso. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

G. Director's Report

K. LaRocca reported that 2,200 pounds of non-perishable food was collected during Food For Fines in September for distribution to the following local food banks: First Baptist Church of Slidell Food Pantry, Bush Food Pantry, Northshore Food Bank, and Samaritan Center. Susan Kent of Carson Block Consultants met with staff via zoom at our All-Staff meeting. She gave an overview of the Strategic Planning process and staff participated in an exercise as part of the planning process.

Staff participated in outreach services at the St. Tammany Parish Chamber Expo, the Northshore Technical Community College Wellness Resource Fair, COAST, the Pumpkin Festival in Slidell, the Wooden Boat Festival in Madisonville, the Veterans Resource Festival at the St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office, several school visits, radio interviews on the Lake 94.7 and the Highway 104.7, Check it Out TV Show, and WWL-TV Morning Show's *Great Day Louisiana* segment.

The library received three Statements of Concern at our August 23rd Board meeting. As part of Section 407 of the Library Rules and Regulations Manual the staff formed a committee and responded to the statements of concern. They were mailed on September 30, 2022. We have not as of yet received a request for an appeal to the LBOC from any of the three petitioners. Three more Statements of Concern were received at our September 27th Board meeting. We are currently working on responses to these concerns and will mail them over the next week.

Staff attended association meetings, conferences, training, and webinars. Staff attended local community meetings such as the Commission on Families, Northshore Nonprofit Resources Round-Up, and Chevron Community Fellows. B. Geiger reminded Board members to complete their Ethics Training and Sexual Harassment Training for the year. The following staff were awarded Employee of the Year: Sally Cooper Gill, Librarian of the Year. Cassi Breaux, Full-time Employee of the Year. Eric Collins, Part-time Employee of the Year, and Byron Holdiman, Rookie of the Year. Nichola Kleyle will be the new Circulation Manager at the Covington Branch. Barret Reich is the new Reference Librarian in Mandeville.

The website statistics show 53,142 sessions with 30,423 users between September 21st – October 20th. New visitors comprised 52.29% of these sessions. K. LaRocca referenced the September 2022 and year-to-date service statistics. B. Taylor asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

H. Request to Alter the Agenda – Addition of Resolution to Seek Legal Advice

B. Taylor requested to alter the agenda to include a resolution to seek legal advice. The following resolution was read aloud:

In light of the possibility of appeals on the Statements of Concern, the Board as part of its fiduciary responsibilities needs to be aware of the legal ramifications, federal, state, and local, of the disposition of materials in question and to request this information from our Parish legal advisor and if they cannot supply the requested information, then we will seek outside counsel at the Attorney General's standard rate of compensation.

A. Shaw moved to add the resolution to the agenda. It was seconded by C. Butler. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

B. Taylor read the resolution aloud for a second time. B. Taylor asked for public comment. An audience member who did not state her name said that she did not understand the addition to the agenda. B. Taylor read the resolution aloud for a third time. Another audience member who did not state her name said that the audience members are not lawyers and asked for the Board to explain what materials are as referred to in the resolution. B. Taylor clarified that materials are items in the library's collection that have been challenged by the public by submitting Statements of Concern. K. LaRocca explained that if a person is not satisfied with the committee's decision after reviewing their Statement of Concern and challenged item, the person can appeal to the Library Board of Control. There are legal ramifications to any action taken on a book. The Board would like to seek legal advice to be advised on what actions can be taken on appealed library materials.

There was public comment from Trey Brownfield. He asked if the Board is asking to use taxpayer funds to work against the will of the taxpayers who are present at the meeting. B. Taylor stated that the Board will respond to questions at the end of each agenda item. There was continued discussion back and forth between T. Brownfield and B. Taylor. Emily Couvillon, the library's legal counsel from the District Attorney's Office, stated that in order to avoid debates at the podium the Board will note his concerns and, if appropriate, will respond. T. Brownfield stated his question for a second time. K. LaRocca stated that a library's collection is a designated public forum. She stated that due to the First Amendment and free speech, there can be legal ramifications to what the Board decides to do with the books. She explained that if the library is sued and has to pay legal fees, those fees would be paid for by taxpayer dollars as well. She stated that seeking legal advice to inform us of the legal ramifications of moving or removing books is far less costly than costs associated with being sued. She stated that the library is not seeking legal advice for the purpose of going against what taxpayers want. The Board wants to ensure that the library is doing things correctly and is making the best decisions with taxpayer dollars.

There was public comment from A.G. Crowe. He asked if the library is not confident enough in the legal counsel that is already appointed to advise. K. LaRocca clarified that our current legal counsel has to have enough time to advise us on such matters. If they do not, then we will have to go elsewhere. She stated that we will start with our appointed legal counsel. A.G. Crowe commented that the meeting did not begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was public comment from Candice Mallard. She suggested that the library post the material that is controversial before purchasing so that the public can comment and vote on it before adding the material to the collection.

There was public comment from Heather Oster. She asked if there is money set aside to seek outside legal counsel. K. LaRocca stated that we do have funds included in the budget for legal purposes. She asked if the library has a Parish attorney that would defend the library against the citizens of the Parish. K. LaRocca said that is not what the Board is asking for. She clarified that the Board is seeking counsel to ensure that what we do fits within the laws of the federal, state, and local governments.

There was public comment from Tamara Murray. She stated that she understands the need for outside legal counsel and is sorry the Christian bigots in the room are forcing the library to do so.

A. Shaw moved to approve the resolution to seek outside counsel. It was seconded by C. Butler. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Rules and Regulations Committee Update

K. LaRocca reported that the committee met on October 12th at the Causeway Branch to continue discussing, reviewing, and updating Chapter 4 – Collection Development. The next meeting is November 16th at the Causeway Branch at 11:30 a.m.

B. Strategic Planning Committee Update

K. LaRocca reported that the committee continues to make headway. Library Administration received the complete data collection and community engagement report and met with the consultants via Zoom to review. The report was distributed to the Community Advisory Committee and the Library Board of Control. The consultants visited in person for the Board's Strategic Planning Workshop and visioning/mission statement session.

C. St. Tammany Parish Library Foundation Update

There was no update from the Library Foundation.

D. Friends of the Library Report

There was no update from the Friends of the Library.

4. Public Comment

Camille Thompson – Stated that there are better things in the community to participate in besides gay rights and Pride Month. She stated she would like to see her tax money spent on items that inspire integrity, hard work, patriotism, love of family, God, and community. She suggested putting the challenged books through a shredder to dispose of them.

Candice Mallard – Suggested the library develop a plan for public input before purchasing controversial children's books. She listed books that she objects to due to inappropriate sexual material and propaganda promoting alternative lifestyles. She spoke about the library grooming children and asked the Board to repent and turn to Jesus.

Kathleen Benfield – Stated that pornographic books are available to children through the library. She stated that selling such items to minor children is likely prosecutable and noted a Louisiana state statute. She suggested a policy similar to the policy that prohibits children from accessing R-rated or NC-17 materials.

Gene Mallard – Stated that his opinions represent 1,200 members of the First Baptist Church of Slidell and community. He stated that the LGBTQ community has the right to their beliefs and activities, but they do not have the right to expose those lifestyles to children in the community. He suggested that all LGBTQ and transgender books should only be available upon parental request.

Sonnet Ireland – Stated that Eisenhower would be rolling in his grave, as he was anti-censorship. She stated that the government is not responsible for parenting children. A compromise on this issue would only make one side happy. She stated that if you do not like something, do not read it. She spoke about gay and transgender youth feeling alone and suicidal.

Johanna Miner – Stated that she is going to heaven. She asked the Board if they thought they would be promoting the grooming of children to change their sex as young as two and three years old. She referred to the book *I Am Jazz* and said that the boy knew at two years old that he was a girl in a boy's body. She quoted bible verses and said she would pray for the Board.

Connie Phillips – She referred to posters containing enlarged pages and images from several books, such as *I Am Jazz*, *Sex: A Book for Teens*, *Lawn Boy*, and *Gender Queer*. She stated that the books violate criminal statutes. She read excerpts from *Lawn Boy* aloud. She referred to images from *Gender Queer* and stated that it is porn and pedophilia. She stated that only homosexuality is celebrated, not heterosexuality.

A.G. Crowe – Stated that he appreciates the work that the library is trying to do. He spoke of the library's Challenged Materials Policy. He stated that it does not say on the website who purchases the books. He said that is an act of censorship because the library is censoring what is allowed in the library. He stated his interpretation of the policy and said that it allows for inadvertent psychological harm to children.

Diane Bruni – Stated that she is disappointed in the decision of her Statement of Concern. She stated the books are recruiting tools to promote the transgender movement to children. She stated that children would not be questioning their gender on their own unless they have been exposed to or indoctrinated with this knowledge. She stated books like *Lawn Boy* are violating the law.

Bonnie Schmidt – She thanked the Board and the library for not banning or censoring books. She stated that the library is a vital component of our community and provides information on both sides of the subject so that anyone can read what they want to read. She stated that the morality police are not needed in Slidell. She stated that there are women in Iran dying in the streets for the freedom of expression that we take for granted.

Fran Smith – She shared a personal story of sexual abuse as a young girl. She stated that it was hard to grow up and not feel guilty and to try to live a normal life. She asked the Board what is wrong with their hearts. She stated that what the library is allowing is shameful. She spoke of the possibility of children reading these books, then becoming a pedophile and hurting others.

Cynthia Karimpanamannel – Stated that she is disappointed in the Board and how they assume that her grandsons need this information. She stated that she appreciates the notion that it is the parent's responsibility what a child reads. She stated that the books are not wanted in the library and that it is wrong. She asked the Board to search their hearts.

Randy Trahan – Stated that he and his husband have lived in St. Tammany since 1989 and pay both property and sales taxes just like other homeowners. He stated there are a lot of books he does not like in the library, so he just does not read them. He stated that the previous public comments have made him feel as though he shouldn't be allowed in the library. He stated that he loves and supports his public library.

David Cogle – He asked the Board if they ever thought they would be approving pornographic and pedophilic material targeted to minors. He asked why those who approve the alleged books have not been fired. He spoke about transgender people and it being permanent mutilation. He stated that the Board is pimping out the library to outside activist groups. He stated that the library is breaking laws. He asked for the library to stand with the children to protect their innocence.

Donna Bonnoitt – She asked for policy changes for displays and challenging books. She stated that her group will go to the Parish President and Parish Council. She asked for the removal of all pornographic and pedophilic materials from all branches. She asked for public notice of all materials before purchase and would like all books approved by the public rather than the three librarians. She asked for 30 days notice of all display themes. She asked for picture IDs to be required for public comment.

Barbara Mamoulides – She stated that she has family members in the LGBTQ community. She explained that a kid reading about gay kids does not make them gay, nor does reading about straight kids make them straight. She stated that books are tools for understanding complex

issues. She stated that limiting access to books does not protect people from those issues, rather it takes away valuable resources for learning. She stated that individuals should not be making decisions for other readers or other parents.

Nina Davies – She stated that she is a mother of six children who has brought her children to the library for many years. She stated that some books look innocent at surface level, and it can be a difficult thing for parents to censor. She spoke of a book that referenced rape and transgender issues. She stated children cannot understand those concepts and books such as that should be in the adult section.

Dr. Gary Martinez – Stated that he does not believe the library should be censoring, but they already are due to only one person buying books for each age group. He stated the titles should be put on the website so that the public can vote before purchasing the materials. He quoted a bible verse. He stated that as a teacher he would be fired and sued for showing images like the ones in the *Gender Queer* graphic novel.

Cynthia Collins – She stated that the library has an impact on the culture and the community. She stated that the images in the *Gender Queer* graphic novel are pornography. She stated that adults have a responsibility to guide children. She spoke of books in the catalog regarding pornography addiction and gender identity. She stated there are 86 books regarding gender identity.

Amanda Pohlmann – She thanked the Board for their service and dedication to serving the community. She stated they are the guardians and gatekeepers for children and the community. She acknowledged that there are many moving parts involved with running the library. She stated that the books in question have explicit content in both written and graphic form and should be stopped by the gatekeepers. She referenced the Miller Guide to Obscenity.

Kristen Gregory – She spoke of her husband, a police officer who passed away. She stated that books in the library, *Lawn Boy* and *Gender Queer*, illustrate pornography and pedophilia. She read excerpts of *Lawn Boy* aloud. She said the books are available in the library and on Hoopla. She said there should be an audit of every book in the library.

Shirley Thomas – She spoke about Russian leader, Khrushchev, who censored books when she was a child. She stated that is what people are trying to do today and that it will be other books next. She stated that the book *Maus* is banned in Tennessee. She explained that the book is about children who are portrayed as mice and the cats are the Nazis. She stated that children should be able to read about things that have happened in the past so that history will not be repeated.

Larry Roques – He spoke of the first library he visited as a child with Dorothy Crockett as the librarian. He stated that she would be heartbroken. He spoke of what is literature and what is not literature. He stated that the internet has opened doors that cannot be closed. He said children are looking for direction from adults. He shared that his daughter was molested as a child by a teen who was sexually awakened before his time.

Rev. Jarrett Banks – He stated that as a faith leader he is here to stand with those who Jesus stood up for. He said that he stands with those who are marginalized, vilified, and demonized by culture, politics, and religion. He stated that the greatest commandment is to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. He stated that he publicly stands against all bigotry, discrimination, and censorship.

Tamara Murray – She stated that she is thankful to the Board and is thankful for the LGBTQ display at the Mandeville Branch. She spoke of the suicide statistics of transgender youth. She spoke of how LGBTQ youth are mistreated and stigmatized by society. She stated that reading books about other gay and transgender people may mean the difference between feeling accepted rather than rejected.

Casey Rushing – He asked the Board and Library Administration if they have read the book *Gender Queer*. T. DiMaggio responded that she has read the book. C. Rushing asked what she thought about the book. B. Taylor stated that questions will be addressed at the end of public comment. C. Rushing asked the Board why he shouldn't sue the library if his child checks out *Gender Queer*. He stated it is distribution of pornography to a minor and is a crime.

A member of the public that did not state her name called the Board and Library Administration licentious oligarchs.

Lisa Rustemeyer – She stated that the library is doing exceptionally well serving the needs of her family. She said that she does not expect to like every book available. She stated that the library serves the entire community. She stated that *Lawn Boy* and *Gender Queer* are located in the adult section. She stated that the pages of the books displayed are cherry-picked and wonders if they have read the books in their entirety.

Erin Kennedy – She stated that she is in favor of keeping the recently challenged children's picture books in the library. She stated that she would like to acknowledge the collection developers and their role in keeping the library's mission of providing books for all of the community. She stated that the books are not meant to convince anyone to transition against their will.

Elizabeth Rogers – Stated that she is a transgender woman who has been a library patron since childhood. She stated that she has two children who she loves and who love her. She shared that she almost took her own life at age 24 and her father recently disowned her. She explained that no one wants to make their children transgender or queer. She said that since she has transitioned, she is the happiest that she's ever been in her life.

Heather Oster – Stated that she has a family member who is non-binary. She said she did not know what that meant until recently. She said she prays for him. She stated that no one wants to be something that they feel they are not. She stated that the library is no longer a sanctuary.

Mel Manuel – She spoke in support of the three children's books that have been challenged. She said she read the books, which are about children of color who are trans or gender non-conforming. She explained they live with families who love and support them the way they are. She stated that people will continue to challenge trans books because they are uncomfortable with trans people.

Kitty Carmody – She stated that she is disappointed to see the number of people in favor of censorship. She explained that what one person considers shocking, rude, or immoral is not what others may think. She stated that censoring books is a slippery slope. She said that it is not the library's job to protect or make decisions for her child or anyone else's child.

Donald Bryan – He stated that he sits on 11 boards. He stated that board members are trustees. He stated there are regulations for what is considered appropriate material. He stated that adult materials are segregated from children for good reason. He stated that the material he has seen at the meeting is inappropriate for children.

B. Taylor answered previously asked public comment questions. B. Taylor stated that the Library Board of Control members are appointed by the Parish Council and the Parish President. She explained that the Board serves as volunteers and receive no compensation for their services. She said the Board members take an oath to guide the institution and have fiduciary responsibilities for governing how the funds for the library system are spent.

K. LaRocca explained the process of how a minor child can obtain their own library card to check out materials. Minors under 18 years old must have a parent co-sign the library card application giving the child permission to obtain their own library card. By signing the library card application, the parent agrees that they are responsible for the materials their child borrows. No minor under 5 years of age can obtain a library card of their own. No child under the age of 10 may be left unattended in the library.

B. Taylor stated that it is any patron's right to submit a Statement of Concern about library materials. She stated that there is a policy and a process that the library follows. She explained that the Board does not read each book that is challenged. The Board only reads the books that are appealed by patrons if they are not satisfied with the decision made by the library. B. Taylor explained the following process of challenging a book: A patron submits a Statement of Concern. The library forms a committee that reads the book and book reviews. The committee discusses the book and the concerns. A decision is made in writing and mailed to the person who submitted the Statement of Concern. If the person is not satisfied with the decision, they can appeal to the Library Board of Control by contacting Brent Geiger, Assistant Director of Public Services. The appeal will be placed on the agenda for the next Library Board of Control meeting.

B. Taylor explained that as of today, no one has appealed the decisions made for any of the books that were challenged so far. If any of the titles are appealed, the Board will add it to the next meeting agenda. She repeated that an appeal is the next step in the process if the patron is not satisfied with the library's decision. K. LaRocca stated that people have asked why the challenged books are not on the board meeting agendas, and that is because there have been no appeals. B. Taylor stated that it is not the Board's business to pull books without following the policy and process.

A member of the public who did not state her name asked who is on the appeal board. K. LaRocca answered the Library Board of Control. The member of the public asked who is the Library Board of Control. B. Taylor answered that she and the other four members present are part of the Library Board of Control, along with three others who are absent.

A member of the public who did not state his name stated that he previously asked the Board how they feel about the books being challenged. B. Taylor answered that her personal preference has no place here. She explained that the Board signs an oath to be impartial and ethical.

E. Couvillon clarified that there is no agenda item to be acted on at this time and that this is just a period of public comment. She repeated the process of challenging a book and the appeals process. She stated that the Board has not yet reviewed the material because there have been no appeals. The member of the public asked if the items are appealed to the Board, will they then give their personal opinion on the books. B. Taylor repeated that the Board's personal opinions do not come into play. The member of the public asked who approved the books to be purchased. E. Couvillon stated that the Board does not have that information. She stated that the Board has provided answers to the questions and the public can follow up via email. The man continued to speak from the audience. E. Couvillon stated that the meeting will return to the business at hand. She explained that she is there to ensure the meeting is conducted with decorum. The man asked

why he should not sue the library if his child obtains the books in question. E. Couvillon stated that he has the right to consult an attorney on the matter.

A woman who did not state her name asked if the books are purchased or donated. K. LaRocca stated that as the Library Director she is ultimately responsible for the materials purchased, and the library obtains materials in two ways. She explained that 36% of the materials that the library purchases are patron requests that are submitted through the website. She stated that the remaining items are purchased by trained librarians, as there is a lot of work involved with building library collections. She said the library employs experts in children, teen, and adult literature as well as reference materials and digital materials. She clarified that it is not just simply three people choosing books. She said their job is to make sure they buy materials for everyone in the community, and they have the tools, training, and years of experience to do so.

A woman asked if the books discussed at the meeting were donated. She stated her concern for those types of books and noted that she found 86 books on a similar topic when she searched the library catalog. She stated she is concerned about groups pushing an agenda by putting these items in libraries. K. LaRocca stated that the books were purchased by the library, not donated. She explained that the library has over 750,000 items in its collection and that 86 items is well below 1% of the library's collection. K. LaRocca stated that the library does not have an agenda and we do not have any group imposing an agenda. The library does have a mission to provide resources for everyone in the community that reflects their viewpoints and values.

Another woman who did not state her name stated that there are no parental controls on Hoopla. K. LaRocca said she would look into that for her and also suggested the children's portal in the Libby app. K. LaRocca agreed that parents should be able to control what their child is looking up and stated that the library wants to give parents the tools to do that.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by S. Tosso and seconded by C. Butler. All were in favor, none were opposed, and three were absent. Motion carried.

Mary Reneau, Secretary

[illegible]

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St. Tammany Parish Library - General Fund
Balance Sheet
October 31, 2022

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	\$	7,560,399.54
Cash - Health Claims		(34,510.79)
Due from Paylocity		0.00
Due from Bank		1,000.00
Returned Checks		0.00
Ad Valorem Receivable - 2021		0.00
Ad Valorem Receivable - 2022		9,473,333.30
Ad Valorem Receivable - 2020		0.00
Due from State of Louisiana		208,561.71
Prepaid Expenses		181,717.00

Total Current Assets		17,390,500.76
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Other Assets

Deposits		1,981.00
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Total Other Assets		1,981.00
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Total Assets	\$	17,392,481.76
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LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Current Liabilities

Accrued Expenses	\$	4,641.00
Accrued Salaries		170,964.09
Deferred Inflows - Ad Valorem		40,662.00
Elective Benefits Payable		(2,415.93)
Retirement Payable		66,954.02
Health Claims Payable		148,210.55

Total Current Liabilities		429,015.73
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Fund Balance

Fund Balance		16,963,466.03
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Total Fund Balance		16,963,466.03
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Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	\$	17,392,481.76
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**St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Ten Months Ending October 31, 2022**

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD Act</u> <u>to YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Revenues					
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 947,333.33	\$ 9,492,513.84	11,444,000.00	1,951,486.16	82.95
State Revenue Sharing	20,966.67	209,666.70	252,628.00	42,961.30	82.99
Fines/Fees	6,071.11	61,746.57	71,000.00	9,253.43	86.97
Interest Income	5,754.37	21,841.00	33,500.00	11,659.00	65.20
Insurance Proceeds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations Received	11,563.00	33,302.89	50,000.00	16,697.11	66.61
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	14,200.21	14,200.00	(0.21)	100.00
Summer Reading Shirt Sales	0.00	1,316.77	1,317.00	0.23	99.98
Total Revenues	991,688.48	9,834,587.98	11,866,645.00	2,032,057.02	82.88
Expenditures					
Library Administration	398,966.94	4,224,938.27	5,195,000.00	970,061.73	81.33
Employee Benefits	142,635.79	1,539,420.03	1,966,426.00	427,005.97	78.29
Advertising, Dues & Subscriptio	1,189.49	26,749.86	39,000.00	12,250.14	68.59
Signage	0.00	758.38	3,500.00	2,741.62	21.67
Printing, Duplicating & Bindin	1,782.51	8,308.86	16,000.00	7,691.14	51.93
Promotional Production	1,855.08	7,479.34	20,500.00	13,020.66	36.48
Utilities	31,937.02	292,012.33	334,950.00	42,937.67	87.18
Communications	10,001.86	117,663.63	145,000.00	27,336.37	81.15
Leases	26,183.20	262,905.79	317,000.00	54,094.21	82.94
Maintenance of Property & Equi	60,164.14	501,035.52	609,500.00	108,464.48	82.20
Maintenance Services (Building	20,686.26	205,928.71	261,600.00	55,671.29	78.72
Professional Services	3,331.22	196,257.56	252,370.00	56,112.44	77.77
Insurance and Claims	0.00	216,562.21	221,326.00	4,763.79	97.85
Operating Supplies	14,628.69	128,817.06	155,280.00	26,462.94	82.96
Travel & Continuing Education	13,938.53	75,463.60	103,842.00	28,378.40	72.67
Public Relations/Programming	6,206.51	92,323.54	142,800.00	50,476.46	64.65
Capital Outlay-Non-Book Acq.	94,861.68	399,631.67	499,200.00	99,568.33	80.05
Capital Outlay-library Res. Ac	96,199.50	1,076,264.80	1,478,420.00	402,155.20	72.80
Total Expenditures	924,568.42	9,372,521.16	11,761,714.00	2,389,192.84	79.69
Excess of Revenues/(Expenditur	\$ 67,120.06	\$ 462,066.82	104,931.00	(357,135.82)	440.35

St. Tammany Parish Library
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
For the Ten Months Ending October 31, 2022

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Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 16,501,399.21
Net Income	462,066.82
Ending Fund Balance	<u>\$ 16,963,466.03</u>

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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**St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Ten Months Ending October 31, 2022**

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Library Administration					
Library Salaries	\$ 398,966.94	\$ 4,224,938.27	\$ 5,195,000.00	970,061.73	81.33
Total	\$ 398,966.94	\$ 4,224,938.27	\$ 5,195,000.00	970,061.73	81.33
Employee Benefits					
FICA/ Supplemental Retirement	\$ 8,824.88	\$ 94,188.13	\$ 112,510.00	18,321.87	83.72
Retirement Contributions	42,160.77	415,817.25	516,000.00	100,182.75	80.58
Health Insurance Expense	36,662.15	364,827.68	441,000.00	76,172.32	82.73
Health Trust	54,987.99	633,170.97	864,500.00	231,329.03	73.24
Worker's Compensation Expense	0.00	31,416.00	31,416.00	0.00	100.00
Employee Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Total	\$ 142,635.79	\$ 1,539,420.03	\$ 1,966,426.00	427,005.97	78.29
Advertising, Dues & Subscriptions					
Publication of Legal Notices	\$ 644.49	\$ 3,583.86	\$ 4,000.00	416.14	89.60
Membership Dues	0.00	6,945.00	8,000.00	1,055.00	86.81
Advertising	545.00	16,221.00	27,000.00	10,779.00	60.08
Total	\$ 1,189.49	\$ 26,749.86	\$ 39,000.00	12,250.14	68.59
Signage					
Signage	\$ 0.00	\$ 758.38	\$ 3,500.00	2,741.62	21.67
Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 758.38	\$ 3,500.00	2,741.62	21.67
Printing, Duplicating & Binding					
Printing	\$ 1,782.51	\$ 6,439.46	\$ 12,000.00	5,560.54	53.66
Book Binding	0.00	1,869.40	4,000.00	2,130.60	46.74
Total	\$ 1,782.51	\$ 8,308.86	\$ 16,000.00	7,691.14	51.93
Promotional Production					
Promotional Production	\$ 1,855.08	\$ 7,479.34	\$ 20,500.00	13,020.66	36.48
Total	\$ 1,855.08	\$ 7,479.34	\$ 20,500.00	13,020.66	36.48

Utilities

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**St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Ten Months Ending October 31, 2022**

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Electricity	\$ 29,007.27	\$ 261,377.64	\$ 297,700.00	36,322.36	87.80
Gas	51.75	2,007.86	3,000.00	992.14	66.93
Water	2,878.00	28,626.83	34,250.00	5,623.17	83.58
Total	\$ 31,937.02	\$ 292,012.33	\$ 334,950.00	42,937.67	87.18
Communications					
Postage	\$ 256.30	\$ 10,688.42	\$ 12,000.00	1,311.58	89.07
Voice Line	5,953.76	69,050.20	85,500.00	16,449.80	80.76
Data Lines (Internet)	3,775.00	37,745.00	47,000.00	9,255.00	80.31
Courier/Shipping	16.80	180.01	500.00	319.99	36.00
Total	\$ 10,001.86	\$ 117,663.63	\$ 145,000.00	27,336.37	81.15
Leases					
Building Lease Expense	\$ 26,183.20	\$ 258,908.93	\$ 311,000.00	52,091.07	83.25
Equipment Lease Expense	0.00	3,996.86	6,000.00	2,003.14	66.61
Total	\$ 26,183.20	\$ 262,905.79	\$ 317,000.00	54,094.21	82.94
Maintenance of Property & Equipment					
Custodial and Janitorial	\$ 18,292.34	\$ 173,103.02	\$ 210,000.00	36,896.98	82.43
Grounds/Lawn Maintenance	6,876.00	65,637.00	85,000.00	19,363.00	77.22
Maintenance Supplies	989.47	8,086.40	9,000.00	913.60	89.85
Fuel & Lube	2,683.98	31,188.51	36,000.00	4,811.49	86.63
Vehicle Repairs	217.81	3,656.32	4,000.00	343.68	91.41
Small Tools	606.11	2,113.81	3,000.00	886.19	70.46
Office Machine & Equip Repair	200.00	897.69	1,000.00	102.31	89.77
Network Utility Software	29,916.61	130,205.39	173,000.00	42,794.61	75.26
Automation System Maintenance	24.82	28,026.94	28,500.00	473.06	98.34
Polaris Maintenance	0.00	51,978.19	53,000.00	1,021.81	98.07
PC Network Maintenance & Repai	357.00	6,142.25	7,000.00	857.75	87.75
Total	\$ 60,164.14	\$ 501,035.52	\$ 609,500.00	108,464.48	82.20
Maintenance of Services (Buildings)					
Physical Plant	\$ 4,444.67	\$ 116,305.59	\$ 148,000.00	31,694.41	78.58
Plumbing, Heating and AC	2,984.02	53,394.30	66,500.00	13,105.70	80.29
Electrical	2,003.39	7,622.17	8,000.00	377.83	95.28
Sanitation	953.18	7,198.67	9,000.00	1,801.33	79.99
Pest Control	550.00	5,590.00	7,000.00	1,410.00	79.86
Termite Contract	7,086.00	7,589.00	8,100.00	511.00	93.69
Carpet Cleaning	2,665.00	8,228.98	15,000.00	6,771.02	54.86

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**St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Ten Months Ending October 31, 2022**

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Total	\$ 20,686.26	\$ 205,928.71	\$ 261,600.00	55,671.29	78.72
Professional Services					
Payroll Service Fees	\$ 2,749.22	\$ 28,368.07	\$ 34,170.00	5,801.93	83.02
Financial	0.00	38,003.87	40,000.00	1,996.13	95.01
Consultants	394.00	52,960.07	90,000.00	37,039.93	58.84
Security	188.00	4,192.79	8,000.00	3,807.21	52.41
Web Design Consultant	0.00	72,732.76	80,200.00	7,467.24	90.69
Total	\$ 3,331.22	\$ 196,257.56	\$ 252,370.00	56,112.44	77.77
Insurance and Claims					
Library Property Insurance	\$ 0.00	\$ 132,637.21	\$ 135,500.00	2,862.79	97.89
Flood Insurance	0.00	23,424.00	23,500.00	76.00	99.68
Vehicle Insurance	0.00	42,860.00	42,950.00	90.00	99.79
LBOC Liability	0.00	4,076.00	4,076.00	0.00	100.00
General Liability	0.00	13,565.00	15,300.00	1,735.00	88.66
Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 216,562.21	\$ 221,326.00	4,763.79	97.85
Operating Supplies					
Office Supplies	\$ 3,460.78	\$ 26,267.98	\$ 30,000.00	3,732.02	87.56
Bank Service Charges	1,209.35	13,032.81	16,000.00	2,967.19	81.46
Book Preparation Supplies	3,074.39	34,070.56	40,280.00	6,209.44	84.58
Computer/Printer Supplies	6,012.60	49,172.59	61,000.00	11,827.41	80.61
Programming Supplies	871.57	6,273.12	8,000.00	1,726.88	78.41
Total	\$ 14,628.69	\$ 128,817.06	\$ 155,280.00	26,462.94	82.96
Travel and Continuing Education					
Staff Travel - Local	\$ 1,581.09	\$ 15,826.06	\$ 22,000.00	6,173.94	71.94
Library In-service Training	5,326.84	11,201.87	11,500.00	298.13	97.41
Conventions & Seminars	7,030.60	48,435.67	70,342.00	21,906.33	68.86
Total	\$ 13,938.53	\$ 75,463.60	\$ 103,842.00	28,378.40	72.67
Public Relations/Programming					
Summer Reading Program	\$ 648.70	\$ 38,507.80	\$ 45,000.00	6,492.20	85.57
Summer Reading T-shirts	0.00	5,834.64	5,800.00	(34.64)	100.60
Adult Programming	4,588.91	31,526.79	36,000.00	4,473.21	87.57
Young Adult Programming	12.76	9,626.73	21,200.00	11,573.27	45.41

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**St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Ten Months Ending October 31, 2022**

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Juvenile Programming	956.14	6,827.58	34,800.00	27,972.42	19.62
Total	\$ 6,206.51	\$ 92,323.54	\$ 142,800.00	50,476.46	64.65
 Capital Outlay-Non-Book Acq					
Landscape Additions	\$ 12,905.96	\$ 32,054.76	\$ 32,500.00	445.24	98.63
Imp Phys Plant	47,576.56	125,810.05	141,200.00	15,389.95	89.10
Vehicles	0.00	27,841.26	28,000.00	158.74	99.43
Office Equip, Furn & Shelving	7,259.62	65,423.83	135,000.00	69,576.17	48.46
PC Network	27,119.54	144,072.27	157,000.00	12,927.73	91.77
Audio/Visual Equipment	0.00	4,429.50	5,500.00	1,070.50	80.54
Total	\$ 94,861.68	\$ 399,631.67	\$ 499,200.00	99,568.33	80.05
 Capital Outlay-Library Res. Acq.					
Adult Books	\$ 8,711.70	\$ 160,384.85	\$ 210,000.00	49,615.15	76.37
Lease/Purchase Books	0.00	18,363.24	18,400.00	36.76	99.80
Juvenile Books	11,460.57	57,953.03	105,000.00	47,046.97	55.19
Young Adults	946.58	10,221.89	15,000.00	4,778.11	68.15
Music Recordings	179.08	2,113.18	4,000.00	1,886.82	52.83
Adult Reference	3,298.62	81,028.83	99,000.00	17,971.17	81.85
Juvenile Reference	0.00	7,651.51	47,820.00	40,168.49	16.00
Periodicals	0.00	45,555.94	45,600.00	44.06	99.90
Audio Recordings	1,349.01	7,126.55	12,600.00	5,473.45	56.56
Video Recordings	4,511.55	39,319.86	69,000.00	29,680.14	56.99
Genealogy	0.00	3,677.71	6,500.00	2,822.29	56.58
Microfilm	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	100.00
Downloadable Media	46,462.39	369,188.11	470,000.00	100,811.89	78.55
CD/Software	0.00	67,632.97	92,500.00	24,867.03	73.12
Internet Database Subscription	4,280.00	191,047.13	268,000.00	76,952.87	71.29
Total	\$ 96,199.50	\$ 1,076,264.80	\$ 1,478,420.00	402,155.20	72.80
 Capital Expenditures					
Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0.00	0.00

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St. Tammany Parish Library - General Fund
Balance Sheet
November 30, 2022

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	\$	6,783,502.05
Cash - Health Claims		(2,205.52)
Due from Paylocity		0.00
Due from Bank		1,000.00
Returned Checks		0.00
Ad Valorem Receivable - 2021		0.00
Ad Valorem Receivable - 2022		10,420,666.63
Ad Valorem Receivable - 2020		0.00
Due from State of Louisiana		229,528.38
Prepaid Expenses		181,717.00

Total Current Assets **17,614,208.54**

Other Assets

Deposits		1,981.00
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Total Other Assets **1,981.00**

Total Assets **\$ 17,616,189.54**

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Current Liabilities

Accrued Expenses	\$	4,641.00
Accrued Salaries		170,964.09
Deferred Inflows - Ad Valorem		40,662.00
Elective Benefits Payable		(2,523.63)
Retirement Payable		134,961.13
Health Claims Payable		148,210.55

Total Current Liabilities **496,915.14**

Fund Balance

Fund Balance		17,119,274.40
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Total Fund Balance **17,119,274.40**

Total Liabilities & Fund Balance **\$ 17,616,189.54**

St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Eleven Months Ending November 30, 2022

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD Act</u> <u>to YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Revenues					
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 1,055,100.71	\$ 10,547,614.55	11,444,000.00	896,385.45	92.17
State Revenue Sharing	20,966.67	230,633.37	252,628.00	21,994.63	91.29
Fines/Fees	4,584.44	66,331.01	71,000.00	4,668.99	93.42
Interest Income	7,624.33	29,465.33	33,500.00	4,034.67	87.96
Insurance Proceeds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations Received	0.00	33,302.89	50,000.00	16,697.11	66.61
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	14,200.21	14,200.00	(0.21)	100.00
Summer Reading Shirt Sales	0.00	1,316.77	1,317.00	0.23	99.98
Total Revenues	1,088,276.15	10,922,864.13	11,866,645.00	943,780.87	92.05
Expenditures					
Library Administration	385,918.16	4,610,856.43	5,195,000.00	584,143.57	88.76
Employee Benefits	153,401.63	1,692,821.66	1,966,426.00	273,604.34	86.09
Advertising, Dues & Subscriptio	5,614.32	33,208.23	39,000.00	5,791.77	85.15
Signage	2,170.24	3,336.62	3,500.00	163.38	95.33
Printing, Duplicating & Bindin	1,970.80	9,547.61	16,000.00	6,452.39	59.67
Promotional Production	1,174.54	8,653.88	20,500.00	11,846.12	42.21
Utilities	31,213.96	323,226.29	334,950.00	11,723.71	96.50
Communications	10,736.89	128,400.52	145,000.00	16,599.48	88.55
Leases	26,016.41	288,922.20	317,000.00	28,077.80	91.14
Maintenance of Property & Equi	73,975.69	571,764.41	609,500.00	37,735.59	93.81
Maintenance Services (Building	23,756.96	229,685.67	261,600.00	31,914.33	87.80
Professional Services	18,225.45	214,483.01	252,370.00	37,886.99	84.99
Insurance and Claims	1,489.00	218,051.21	221,326.00	3,274.79	98.52
Operating Supplies	24,115.46	151,848.06	155,280.00	3,431.94	97.79
Travel & Continuing Education	7,187.60	82,575.46	103,842.00	21,266.54	79.52
Public Relations/Programming	7,036.80	99,360.34	142,800.00	43,439.66	69.58
Capital Outlay-Non-Book Acq.	19,168.84	422,687.51	499,200.00	76,512.49	84.67
Capital Outlay-library Res. Ac	139,295.03	1,215,559.83	1,478,420.00	262,860.17	82.22
Total Expenditures	932,467.78	10,304,988.94	11,761,714.00	1,456,725.06	87.61
Excess of Revenues/(Expenditur	\$ 155,808.37	\$ 617,875.19	104,931.00	(512,944.19)	588.84

St. Tammany Parish Library
Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
For the Eleven Months Ending November 30, 2022

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Beginning Fund Balance	\$	16,501,399.21
Net Income		617,875.19
		<hr/>
Ending Fund Balance	\$	<u><u>17,119,274.40</u></u>

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Eleven Months Ending November 30, 2022

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	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Library Administration					
Library Salaries	\$ 385,918.16	\$ 4,610,856.43	\$ 5,195,000.00	584,143.57	88.76
Total	\$ 385,918.16	\$ 4,610,856.43	\$ 5,195,000.00	584,143.57	88.76
Employee Benefits					
FICA/ Supplemental Retirement	\$ 8,522.90	\$ 102,711.03	\$ 112,510.00	9,798.97	91.29
Retirement Contributions	37,242.03	453,059.28	516,000.00	62,940.72	87.80
Health Insurance Expense	36,859.20	401,686.88	441,000.00	39,313.12	91.09
Health Trust	70,777.50	703,948.47	864,500.00	160,551.53	81.43
Worker's Compensation Expense	0.00	31,416.00	31,416.00	0.00	100.00
Employee Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Total	\$ 153,401.63	\$ 1,692,821.66	\$ 1,966,426.00	273,604.34	86.09
Advertising, Dues & Subscriptions					
Publication of Legal Notices	\$ 582.68	\$ 4,166.54	\$ 4,000.00	(166.54)	104.16
Membership Dues	100.00	7,045.00	8,000.00	955.00	88.06
Advertising	4,931.64	21,996.69	27,000.00	5,003.31	81.47
Total	\$ 5,614.32	\$ 33,208.23	\$ 39,000.00	5,791.77	85.15
Signage					
Signage	\$ 2,170.24	\$ 3,336.62	\$ 3,500.00	163.38	95.33
Total	\$ 2,170.24	\$ 3,336.62	\$ 3,500.00	163.38	95.33
Printing, Duplicating & Binding					
Printing	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,707.41	\$ 12,000.00	6,292.59	47.56
Book Binding	1,970.80	3,840.20	4,000.00	159.80	96.01
Total	\$ 1,970.80	\$ 9,547.61	\$ 16,000.00	6,452.39	59.67
Promotional Production					
Promotional Production	\$ 1,174.54	\$ 8,653.88	\$ 20,500.00	11,846.12	42.21
Total	\$ 1,174.54	\$ 8,653.88	\$ 20,500.00	11,846.12	42.21

Utilities

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St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Eleven Months Ending November 30, 2022

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Electricity	\$ 27,744.37	\$ 289,122.01	\$ 297,700.00	8,577.99	97.12
Gas	160.93	2,168.79	3,000.00	831.21	72.29
Water	3,308.66	31,935.49	34,250.00	2,314.51	93.24
Total	\$ 31,213.96	\$ 323,226.29	\$ 334,950.00	11,723.71	96.50
Communications					
Postage	\$ 16.00	\$ 10,704.42	\$ 12,000.00	1,295.58	89.20
Voice Line	6,931.21	75,981.41	85,500.00	9,518.59	88.87
Data Lines (Internet)	3,775.00	41,520.00	47,000.00	5,480.00	88.34
Courier/Shipping	14.68	194.69	500.00	305.31	38.94
Total	\$ 10,736.89	\$ 128,400.52	\$ 145,000.00	16,599.48	88.55
Leases					
Building Lease Expense	\$ 26,016.41	\$ 284,925.34	\$ 311,000.00	26,074.66	91.62
Equipment Lease Expense	0.00	3,996.86	6,000.00	2,003.14	66.61
Total	\$ 26,016.41	\$ 288,922.20	\$ 317,000.00	28,077.80	91.14
Maintenance of Property & Equipment					
Custodial and Janitorial	\$ 17,039.12	\$ 190,389.37	\$ 210,000.00	19,610.63	90.66
Grounds/Lawn Maintenance	6,536.00	72,173.00	85,000.00	12,827.00	84.91
Maintenance Supplies	462.34	8,548.74	9,000.00	451.26	94.99
Fuel & Lube	2,703.47	33,891.98	36,000.00	2,108.02	94.14
Vehicle Repairs	52.80	3,709.12	4,000.00	290.88	92.73
Small Tools	208.82	2,322.63	3,000.00	677.37	77.42
Office Machine & Equip Repair	0.00	974.68	1,000.00	25.32	97.47
Network Utility Software	46,653.15	172,971.54	173,000.00	28.46	99.98
Automation System Maintenance	0.00	28,026.94	28,500.00	473.06	98.34
Polaris Maintenance	0.00	51,978.19	53,000.00	1,021.81	98.07
PC Network Maintenance & Repai	319.99	6,778.22	7,000.00	221.78	96.83
Total	\$ 73,975.69	\$ 571,764.41	\$ 609,500.00	37,735.59	93.81
Maintenance of Services (Buildings)					
Physical Plant	\$ 16,168.10	\$ 132,473.69	\$ 148,000.00	15,526.31	89.51
Plumbing, Heating and AC	2,065.28	55,459.58	66,500.00	11,040.42	83.40
Electrical	176.14	7,798.31	8,000.00	201.69	97.48
Sanitation	697.44	7,896.11	9,000.00	1,103.89	87.73
Pest Control	550.00	6,140.00	7,000.00	860.00	87.71
Termite Contract	0.00	7,589.00	8,100.00	511.00	93.69
Carpet Cleaning	4,100.00	12,328.98	15,000.00	2,671.02	82.19

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St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Eleven Months Ending November 30, 2022

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Total	\$ 23,756.96	\$ 229,685.67	\$ 261,600.00	31,914.33	87.80
Professional Services					
Payroll Service Fees	\$ 2,749.22	\$ 31,117.29	\$ 34,170.00	3,052.71	91.07
Financial	1,020.00	39,023.87	40,000.00	976.13	97.56
Consultants	7,495.64	60,455.71	90,000.00	29,544.29	67.17
Security	0.00	4,192.79	8,000.00	3,807.21	52.41
Web Design Consultant	6,960.59	79,693.35	80,200.00	506.65	99.37
Total	\$ 18,225.45	\$ 214,483.01	\$ 252,370.00	37,886.99	84.99
Insurance and Claims					
Library Property Insurance	\$ 0.00	\$ 132,637.21	\$ 135,500.00	2,862.79	97.89
Flood Insurance	0.00	23,424.00	23,500.00	76.00	99.68
Vehicle Insurance	0.00	42,860.00	42,950.00	90.00	99.79
LBOC Liability	0.00	4,076.00	4,076.00	0.00	100.00
General Liability	1,489.00	15,054.00	15,300.00	246.00	98.39
Total	\$ 1,489.00	\$ 218,051.21	\$ 221,326.00	3,274.79	98.52
Operating Supplies					
Office Supplies	\$ 2,490.92	\$ 29,359.26	\$ 30,000.00	640.74	97.86
Bank Service Charges	1,371.93	14,404.74	16,000.00	1,595.26	90.03
Book Preparation Supplies	7,246.07	39,872.05	40,280.00	407.95	98.99
Computer/Printer Supplies	12,104.46	60,961.07	61,000.00	38.93	99.94
Programming Supplies	902.08	7,250.94	8,000.00	749.06	90.64
Total	\$ 24,115.46	\$ 151,848.06	\$ 155,280.00	3,431.94	97.79
Travel and Continuing Education					
Staff Travel - Local	\$ 887.69	\$ 16,713.75	\$ 22,000.00	5,286.25	75.97
Library In-service Training	333.13	11,459.26	11,500.00	40.74	99.65
Conventions & Seminars	5,966.78	54,402.45	70,342.00	15,939.55	77.34
Total	\$ 7,187.60	\$ 82,575.46	\$ 103,842.00	21,266.54	79.52
Public Relations/Programming					
Summer Reading Program	\$ 3,916.55	\$ 42,424.35	\$ 45,000.00	2,575.65	94.28
Summer Reading T-shirts	0.00	5,519.64	5,800.00	280.36	95.17
Adult Programming	1,635.79	33,162.58	36,000.00	2,837.42	92.12
Young Adult Programming	248.00	9,874.73	21,200.00	11,325.27	46.58

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St. Tammany Parish Library-General Fund
Schedule of Expenditures
For the Eleven Months Ending November 30, 2022

	<u>Current Period</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual to</u> <u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Juvenile Programming	1,236.46	8,379.04	34,800.00	26,420.96	24.08
Total	\$ 7,036.80	\$ 99,360.34	\$ 142,800.00	43,439.66	69.58
Capital Outlay-Non-Book Acq					
Landscape Additions	\$ 0.00	\$ 32,054.76	\$ 32,500.00	445.24	98.63
Imp Phys Plant	15,080.00	140,890.05	141,200.00	309.95	99.78
Vehicles	0.00	27,841.26	28,000.00	158.74	99.43
Office Equip, Furn & Shelving	3,069.85	68,493.68	135,000.00	66,506.32	50.74
PC Network	50.00	148,009.27	157,000.00	8,990.73	94.27
Audio/Visual Equipment	968.99	5,398.49	5,500.00	101.51	98.15
Total	\$ 19,168.84	\$ 422,687.51	\$ 499,200.00	76,512.49	84.67
Capital Outlay-Library Res. Acq.					
Adult Books	\$ 24,424.04	\$ 184,808.89	\$ 210,000.00	25,191.11	88.00
Lease/Purchase Books	0.00	18,363.24	18,400.00	36.76	99.80
Juvenile Books	15,307.88	73,260.91	105,000.00	31,739.09	69.77
Young Adults	1,766.39	11,988.28	15,000.00	3,011.72	79.92
Music Recordings	1,496.60	3,609.78	4,000.00	390.22	90.24
Adult Reference	5,400.89	86,429.72	99,000.00	12,570.28	87.30
Juvenile Reference	9,705.02	17,356.53	47,820.00	30,463.47	36.30
Periodicals	0.00	45,555.94	45,600.00	44.06	99.90
Audio Recordings	3,794.96	10,921.51	12,600.00	1,678.49	86.68
Video Recordings	18,570.01	57,889.87	69,000.00	11,110.13	83.90
Genealogy	2,132.15	5,809.86	6,500.00	690.14	89.38
Microfilm	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	100.00
Downloadable Media	50,795.68	419,983.79	470,000.00	50,016.21	89.36
CD/Software	312.41	67,945.38	92,500.00	24,554.62	73.45
Internet Database Subscription	5,589.00	196,636.13	268,000.00	71,363.87	73.37
Total	\$ 139,295.03	\$ 1,215,559.83	\$ 1,478,420.00	262,860.17	82.22
Capital Expenditures					
Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0.00	0.00

**ST. TAMMANY PARISH
LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL**

MEETING DATES – 2023

*January 24, 2023	Madisonville branch
*February 28, 2023	Slidell Branch
March 28, 2023	Covington Branch
April 25, 2023	Causeway Branch
May 23, 2023	Slidell Branch
July 25, 2023	Madisonville Branch
August 22, 2023	South Slidell Branch
September 26, 2023	Causeway Branch
October 24, 2023	Slidell Branch
December 12, 2023	Covington Branch

* The early February meeting date was removed in favor of a meeting at the end of January and end of February to allow more opportunity for the Board to conduct business.

Election of Officers

As is required in the Library Board of Control Rules and Regulations, the Secretary of the Board polled all members before the final meeting of the year to determine willingness to continue to serve or members wishing to serve in a new capacity.

All current executive officers wished to continue to serve. A motion and a second will be required to continue the service of the current executive officers into the new year.

Library Foundation Alcohol Request

The St. Tammany Library Foundation will hold its annual membership meeting on Tuesday, January 17th, 2023, at Madisonville. It is requested that the Foundation be allowed to serve wine. The wine will be served along with food and available only in the meeting room at Madisonville.

Approval is required by the Board for any alcohol served at the library, as the Rules and Regulations do not allow for alcohol without approval. A motion and second will be required for approval.

Rules and Regulations Committee Update

The Rules and Regulations Committee met on November 8th, November 16th, November 23rd, November 30th, and December 8th at the Causeway Branch to continue discussing, reviewing, and updating Chapter 4 - Collection Management.

We discussed and updated section 407 Challenged Materials policy and the Challenged Materials form. We also discussed and wrote a new policy section 409 Access to Materials by Minors.

Our next meeting date has not been set.

The updated Chapter 4 Section 407 Challenged Materials Policy, the Updated Challenged Materials Form, and the new policy Section 409 Access to Materials by Minors follow this page.

Section 407. Statements of Concern About Library Resources

Effective Date: TK

Revision Date: 12/13/2022

A. General

The choice of library materials by users is an individual matter. Responsibility for the use of library materials by children rests with their parents or legal guardians. While a person may reject material for themselves and for their children, an individual may not exercise censorship to restrict the freedom of others to read, see, or hear. No one, least of all the public library, has the right to judge what another may read, view, or hear.

B. Process

1. Any person residing in St. Tammany Parish and wishing to express concerns about library materials, programs, or displays shall complete a "Statement of Concern About Library Resources" form. The Statement of Concern form shall be available at the library circulation desk, the library's website, by email request, and at all Library Board of Control meetings. All completed Statement of Concern Forms will be forwarded to the Library Director and to each member of the Library Board of Control. Upon receipt of the Statement of Concern Form the Director will confirm receipt in writing to the complainant(s).
2. The Director will select two or more staff members to serve on an internal committee to review each Statement of Concern and the subject of the concern. Committee members will be chosen by the Director based on the type of material under review and taking into consideration the staff member's education and experience. A recommendation regarding which action to be taken, if any, will be made by the committee within 45 days of the Director receiving the Statement of Concern Form, unless a longer period is authorized by the Library Board of Control, in which case the complainant(s) shall receive notice.
3. The committee members shall:
 - a. Review the material in its entirety
 - b. Create and consider a resume of the material which can include:
 - A brief synopsis
 - Reviews in standard evaluation guides
 - Topical information concerning the material
 - Circulation information
 - Information about holdings in other public libraries
 - Awards received
 - Biographical information about the author/producer

- Library of Congress Subject Headings
 - c. Consider the suitability for age level of current placement
 - d. Consider present and potential relevance to community needs
 - e. Conduct a discussion to reach a recommendation
 - f. Submit a written report to the Director with recommendations based on the result of the committee's efforts.
4. The complainant(s) shall be notified of the date of the Library Board of Control meeting at which the committee's report and recommendation will be on the agenda. A copy of the correspondence to the complainant(s) shall be forwarded to each member of the Library Board of Control.
 5. The Director will present the committee's recommendation to the Library Board of Control at a properly noticed Board meeting report.
 6. The complainant(s) will have five minutes to address their concern to the Library Board of Control prior to any action taken by the Board. In lieu of addressing the Board in person at the meeting, the complainant(s) may submit a written statement to the Board. A period of public comment will precede any action taken by the Board.
 7. The Library Board of Control shall vote to affirm, modify, reject, or take under advisement the committee's recommendation. Matters taken under advisement shall be renoticed for a future meeting. Upon modification or rejection of the recommendation of the committee, the Board shall make a decision on what action will be taken in response to the Statement of Concern. The decision of the Board shall be rendered by a majority vote. In the event there is a tie, the recommendation is affirmed.
 8. The complainant(s) will be notified in writing of the decision of the Library Board of Control.

Section 407. Challenged Materials

Effective Date: TK Revision Date: TK

A. General

The choice of library materials by users is an individual matter. Responsibility for the use of library materials by children rests with their parents or legal guardians. Selection should not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may inadvertently come into the possession of children. While a person may reject material for himself or herself and for his or her children, an individual may not exercise censorship to restrict the freedom of others to read, see, or hear. No one, least of all a public library, has the right to judge what another may read, view, or hear.

B. Process

Any completed Statement of Concern Forms will be forwarded to the Library Director. The Director will form a committee to review the Statement of Concern Form. A decision will be made within 45 days of the Director receiving the Statement of Complaint Form. The Director shall notify the complainant in writing of the committee's decision and their right to appeal that decision to the Library Board of Control. A copy of the decision will be mailed to each member of the Library Board of Control.

C. Right to Appeal

The complainant may appeal to the Library Board of Control by contacting the Assistant Director and request to be placed on the agenda of the next scheduled board meeting. The Assistant Director must notify the Library Board of Control of the complainant being placed on the agenda. A complainant will have five minutes to address the Library Board of Control about the specific challenged material on the original Statement of Concern Form.

Section 407. Statements of Concern About Library Resources~~Challenged Materials~~

Effective Date: TK Revision Date: TK

A. General

The choice of library materials by users is an individual matter. Responsibility for the use of library materials by children rests with their parents or legal guardians. ~~Selection should not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may inadvertently come into the possession of children.~~ While a person may reject material for himself or herself and for his or her children, an individual may not exercise censorship to restrict the freedom of others to read, see, or hear. No one, least of all a public library, has the right to judge what another may read, view, or hear.

B. Process

~~Any~~ completed Statement of Concern Forms will be forwarded to the Library Director. ~~The Director will form a committee to review the Statement of Concern Form. A decision will be made within 45 days of the Director receiving the Statement of Complaint Form. The Director shall notify the complainant in writing of the committee's decision and their right to appeal that decision to the Library Board of Control. A copy of the decision will be mailed to each member of the Library Board of Control.~~

1. Any person residing in St. Tammany Parish and wishing to express concerns about library materials, programs, or displays shall complete a "Statement of Concern About Library Resources" form. The Statement of Concern form shall be available at the library circulation desk, the library's website, by email request, and at all Library Board of Control meetings. All~~Any~~completed Statement of Concern Forms will be forwarded to the Library Director and to each member of the Library Board of Control. Upon receipt of the Statement of Concern Form the Director will confirm receipt in writing to the complainant(s).
2. The Director will select two or more staff members to serve on an internal committee to review each Statement of Concern and the subject of the concern. Committee members will be chosen by the Director based on the type of material under review and taking into consideration the staff member's education and experience. A recommendation regarding which action to be taken, if any, will be made by the committee within 45 days of the Director receiving the Statement of Concern Form, unless a longer period is authorized by the Library Board of Control, in which case the complainant(s) shall receive notice.
3. The committee members shall:
 - a. Review the material in its entirety
 - b. Create and consider a resume of the material which can include:
 - A brief synopsis

- Reviews in standard evaluation guides
 - Topical information concerning the material
 - Circulation information
 - Information about holdings in other public libraries
 - Awards received
 - Biographical information about the author/producer
 - Library of Congress Subject Headings
 - c. Consider the suitability for age level of current placement
 - d. Consider present and potential relevance to community needs
 - e. Conduct a discussion to reach a recommendation
 - f. Submit a written report to the Director with recommendations based on the result of the committee's efforts.
4. The complainant(s) shall be notified of the date of the Library Board of Control meeting at which the committee's report and recommendation will be on the agenda. A copy of the correspondence to the complainant(s) shall be forwarded to each member of the Library Board of Control.
5. The Director will present the committee's recommendation to the Library Board of Control at a properly noticed Board meeting report.
6. The complainant(s) will have five minutes to address their concern to the Library Board of Control prior to any action taken by the Board. In lieu of addressing the Board in person at the meeting, the complainant(s) may submit a written statement to the Board. A period of public comment will precede any action taken by the Board.
7. The Library Board of Control shall vote to affirm, modify, reject, or take under advisement the committee's recommendation. Matters taken under advisement shall be renoticed for a future meeting. Upon modification or rejection of the recommendation of the committee, the Board shall make a decision on what action will be taken in response to the Statement of Concern. The decision of the Board shall be rendered by a majority vote. In the event there is a tie, the recommendation is affirmed.
8. The complainant(s) will be notified in writing of the decision of the Library Board of Control.

C. Right to Appeal

~~The complainant may appeal to the Library Board of Control by contacting the Assistant Director and request to be placed on the agenda of the next scheduled board meeting. The Assistant Director must notify the Library Board of Control of the complainant being placed on the agenda. A complainant will have five minutes to address the Library Board of Control about the specific challenged material on the original Statement of Concern Form.~~

Statement of Concern about Library Resources



Intellectual freedom in a public library necessitates selecting some materials that may be considered controversial by some individuals or groups. Reasons often cited for materials considered offensive include use of profanity, divergent viewpoints, controversial authors, sexual content, and depictions of violence and criminal acts. The acquisition of such materials does not imply approval or endorsement of their contents. The selection criteria used by the St. Tammany Parish Library must remain broad and flexible in order to provide a collection that supports the broad range of interests and diverse backgrounds of the citizens of St. Tammany Parish.

Date _____

Name _____

Residence Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mailing Address _____
if different from Residence Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Representing (self) (organization _____)

How would you prefer to receive correspondence about this Statement of Concern?

Email ☐ Residence/Mailing Address ☐

1. Resource on which you are commenting:

_____ Book	_____ Audiovisual	_____ Content of Library Program	_____ Other:
_____ Magazine	_____ Newspaper	_____ Electronic Resource	_____

2. Title _____

Author/Producer _____

3. At which branch library or in which electronic resource did you encounter this material or resource? _____

FORM CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE/OTHER SIDE

4. What brought this item to your attention?

5. Did you review the entire item? If not, what sections did you review?

6. What course of action do you recommend in regard to this resource?

7. Please state your reasons for making this recommendation. To what in the resource do you object? Please be specific: cite pages, scenes or sections. Consider commenting on the resource as a whole, as well as being specific on the matters which concern you.

8. In its place, what materials would you recommend on this topic?

NOTE: This statement will be referred to a Library Resource Review Committee. You will be advised in writing of the committee's decision. Thank you for your concern and input.

Section 409. Access to Library Materials by Minors

The St. Tammany Parish Library does not, to its knowledge, have any materials in its collection that are “obscene” or “pornographic” by legal definition.

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has determined that "public libraries must have broad discretion to decide what material to provide to their patrons."

Based on a review of case law by the St. Tammany Parish District Attorney's office,

1. Public libraries do not have the legal right or responsibility to act in the place of parents or legal guardians in deciding what material their minor children are permitted to read.
2. But public libraries may restrict access to materials by minors, as long as the motives for these restrictions are not unconstitutional.
3. On the basis of findings by SCOTUS, it is proper and constitutional to restrict minors' access to public library materials if they are “pervasively vulgar.”
4. However, to remove or restrict access to books on the grounds of religious beliefs, politics, nationalism, or any other matters of opinion would constitute viewpoint discrimination and not be considered constitutional.

Therefore, it is the policy of the St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control to restrict access by minors to individual books and materials that are found to be inappropriate, i.e. “pervasively vulgar” for minors.

Pending a determination that an item that is the subject of a Statement of Concern is “pervasively vulgar,” according to the standard established by SCOTUS, access to the item will be restricted. These items will be available to all patrons 18 years or older and to those minors whose parents or legal guardians have given them permission.



St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control
Extension of time to allow for procedural due process of Statements of Concern received on and after
November 21st 2022.

December 13th, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control grants a waiver of 120 days to allow for the procedural due process of statements of concern received on and after November 21st 2022 through December 13th 2022.

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Library has received over 75 statements of concern and

WHEREAS, reconsideration committee recommendations shall be mailed to complainants and copied to the Library Board of Control on a rolling basis,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Library Board of Control grants this waiver of time.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Moved for adoption by _____ and seconded by _____,

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

AND THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED DULY ADOPTED ON THIS DAY, THE 13th DAY OF DECEMBER 2022, AT A MEETING OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERSHIP BEING PRESENT.

Rebecca Taylor, Board President

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
310 WEST 21ST AVENUE COVINGTON, LA 70433
PH: (985) 871-1219 FAX: (985) 871-1224

ABITA SPRINGS (985) 893-6285

COVINGTON (985) 893-6280

MADISONVILLE (985) 845-4819

BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER
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FOLSOM (985) 796-9728

MANDEVILLE (985) 626-4293

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St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control
Resolution regarding temporary disposition of challenged materials

December 13th, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control directs library administration and staff to do what is necessary to move all currently challenged items off of the shelves and have them placed on reserve behind the circulation desk.

WHEREAS, the Library Board of Control has heard the concerns of parents and community members, and

WHEREAS, the Library Board of control continues to recognize that parents and guardians make decisions for what their children may check out, and

WHEREAS, these items will be available for check out based on the permissions of the library card in possession of the patron.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Library Board of Control directs the administration and staff to move forward with this directive.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Moved for adoption by _____ and seconded by _____,

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

AND THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED DULY ADOPTED ON THIS DAY, THE 13th DAY OF DECEMBER 2022, AT A MEETING OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERSHIP BEING PRESENT.

Rebecca Taylor, Board President

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**St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control
Resolution regarding graphic novels for adults and teens**

December 13th, 2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control directs library administration and staff to do what is necessary to move all graphic novels for adults and teens off of the shelves and have them placed on reserve behind the circulation desk.

WHEREAS, the Library Board of Control has heard the concerns of parents and community members, and

WHEREAS, the Library Board of control continues to recognize that parents and guardians make decisions for what their children may check out, and

WHEREAS, these items will be available for check out based on the permissions of the library card in possession of the patron.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Library Board of Control directs the administration and staff to move forward with this directive.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Moved for adoption by _____ and seconded by _____,

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

AND THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED DULY ADOPTED ON THIS DAY, THE 13th DAY OF DECEMBER 2022, AT A MEETING OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERSHIP BEING PRESENT.

Rebecca Taylor, Board President

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Statement of Concern about Library Resources



Intellectual freedom in a public library necessitates selecting some materials that may be considered controversial by some individuals or groups. Reasons often cited for materials considered offensive include use of profanity, divergent viewpoints, controversial authors, sexual content, and depictions of violence and criminal acts. The acquisition of such materials does not imply approval or endorsement of their contents. The selection criteria used by the St. Tammany Parish Library must remain broad and flexible in order to provide a collection that supports the broad range of interests and diverse backgrounds of the citizens of St. Tammany Parish.

Date 9-27-22

Name DIANE BRUNI

Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED] State [REDACTED] Zip [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Representing ✓ (self) _____ (organization)

1. Resource on which you are commenting:

X Book _____ Newspaper _____ Other
_____ Magazine _____ Content of Library Program
_____ Audiovisual _____ Electronic Resource

2. Title I AM JAZZ

Author/Producer Jessica Herthel

3. What brought this title to your attention?

4. Did you review the entire item? If not, what sections did you review?

5. What course of action do you recommend in regard to this resource?

Remove from all our Libraries

6. Please state your reasons for making this recommendation. To what in the resource do you object? Please be specific: cite pages, scenes or sections. Consider commenting on the resource as a whole, as well as being specific on the matters which concern you.

Since they don't put page numbers in this book can't list them. However the overall content is to push propaganda instead of a story or plot. To portray an explicit sexual orientation on a minor below the ages of 10 ~~is~~ inappropriate for children who cannot process these subjects.

7. In its place, what materials would you recommend on this topic?

Traditional books that promote healthy childhood topics on animals, adventure, nature, hobbies, and role models of personal achievement from history Lewis & Clark, Father Junipero Serra

NOTE:

This statement will be referred to a Library Resource Review Committee. You will be advised in writing of the committee's decision. Thank you for your concern and input.

I am Jazz by Jessica Herthel & Jazz Jennings ; pictures by Shelagh McNicholas

Dial Books, 2014

Publisher's summary: From the time she was two years old, Jazz knew that she had a girl's brain in a boy's body. She loved pink and dressing up as a mermaid and didn't feel like herself in boys' clothing. This confused her family, until they took her to a doctor who said that Jazz was transgender and that she was born that way.

Library of Congress Subject headings:

- Jennings, Jazz.
- Transgender people, Biography.
- Transgender people, Identity.
- Transgender children, Biography.
- Transgenderism.
- Children's literature.
- Autobiographies.

STPL owns three copies at Covington, Mandeville, and Slidell.

Purchased in February 2019. Available on shelf on February 27, 2019.

Shelved in Juvenile Non-fiction collection. Call number J 306.768 Her (per LC assigned)

Total Circulation of all book copies: 26

One copy of audio CD is held at Slidell. Purchased in November 2016, available March 2017

REVIEWS

School Library Journal (07/01/2014):

Gr 1-3--This enlightening autobiographical picture book tells the story of a transgender child who knew from the time she was two that despite her physical body she wasn't really a boy. Young Jazz was passionate about her love of mermaids, dancing, dress-up, and pop stars, as well as her conviction that her gender identity was female. Readers are taken through her journey with upbeat, pink-hued watercolor illustrations that are a good complement to the cheerful tone and positive message of the story ("I don't mind being different. Different is special! I think what matters most is what a person is like inside."). Joining the ranks of new books targeted at young children that examine gender roles, such as Ian and Sarah Hoffman's *Jacob's New Dress* (Albert Whitman, 2014), this title highlights a topic that has not been well represented in children's literature in an uplifting and empowering way. Jazz's explanation of what transgender means ("I have a girl brain but a boy body") is somewhat simplified. However, for those looking to introduce the concept to young readers or those seeking books that value differences, this illustrated memoir is a solid choice.--Megan Egbert, Meridian Library District, ID Copyright 2014 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.

Kirkus Reviews (07/15/2014):

An autobiographical picture book describes trans-youth activist Jazz Jennings' story of embracing and asserting her transgender identity. Both the title and the opening text proclaims, "I am Jazz!" The book goes on to detail Jazz's various interests and tastes, which follow traditionally feminine gender norms. But as Jazz goes on to explain, she has "a girl brain but a boy body. This is called transgender. I was born this way!" Although the realistic watercolor illustrations consistently display only happy faces in these beginning pages, the text recounts her family's struggle to understand her early-childhood assertion of femininity: "At first my family was confused. They'd always thought of me as a boy." Jazz recalls her pain when compelled to wear "boy clothes" in public. "Pretending I was a boy felt like telling a lie." Her parents' efforts to understand prompt them to meet with a doctor who introduces the word "transgender," which enables the family's powerful affirmation: "We understand now. Be who you are. We love you no matter what." The story balances this acceptance with honest acknowledgement of others' ongoing confusion and intermittent cruelty, and it briefly addresses Jazz's exclusion from girls' soccer in her state. Ultimately, Jazz's self-acceptance, bolstered by her family's support and advocacy, acts as a beacon for readers, trans- and cisgender alike. An empowering, timely story with the power to help readers proclaim, in the words of Jazz's parents, "We understand now." (Picture book. 3 & up) COPYRIGHT (2014) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Booklist (08/01/2014):

Grades K-3 In 2011, a documentary was released about transgender Jazz Jennings. Now 13, Jennings tells her story. I have a girl brain but a boy body, she explains, portraying herself from early childhood on preferring the color pink and mermaid costumes to playing with trucks or tools or superheroes, along with a typical array of interests in dancing, soccer, and drawing. The book gives a clear explanation, even for the youngest, of how she knew that she was born different and the importance of family acceptance. Aside from a trio of small photos at the conclusion, this draws on bright watercolor illustrations done with casual realism to underscore Jennings' determined femininity. The pictures at time go overboard on the girlishness, but both art and narrative accentuate the positive, though not without commenting on the negative. Jennings is mostly surrounded by smiling, supportive friends and family members (the film tells a similar, but more emotionally charged, story), but there are teasing peers and confused teachers, though most are persuaded into acceptance. I am happy. I am having fun. I am proud! is a reassuring message for other trans or different children and their families, too. (Reprinted with permission of Booklist, copyright 2014, American Library Association.)

Bulletin of Ctr for Child Bks (10/01/2014):

Jazz Jennings, trans girl advocate for the recognition of gender dysphoria among younger kids, shares her story of knowing that she has always been a girl, despite her family's and teacher's belief that she is a boy. Jazz explains all of the things that she likes to do-dancing, swim with a mermaid tail, play soccer-and how a visit to a doctor helped her parents understand what it means to be transgender. There's a strong sweetness in the message of acceptance of being different and understanding gender variance, and the upbeat tone never falters, even as Jazz

explains that her parents once made her wear boy clothes in public and recounts the resistance she faced at school from teachers who didn't understand. This perkiness means that the story is light on plot, though, and it's also not heavy on the information end, beyond a simplified definition of trans identity ("I have a girl brain but a boy body"), meaning that its primary use will be therapeutic rather than explanatory. Watercolor illustrations have a retro realism that's soft and approachable, although Jazz and her friends occasionally have a plasticky stiffness. This picture-book memoir does have a lot of opportunity to provide a much-needed outlet for kids with gender nonconformity or trans identities, as well as to help other kids understand what may be going on in some of their friends' lives, making it a selection that many libraries will want to put on their shelves. TA

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

Jessica Herthel is a private consultant for LGBTQ-inclusive school districts and the current president of her local PFLAG chapter. Previously, Jessica was the Education Director of the Stonewall National Museum and Archives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida; the primary editor of an LGBTQ handbook for school administrators; and a curriculum advisor for Broward County Public Schools. Jessica is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School.

Jazz Jennings is a trans woman, YouTube celebrity, spokesmodel, activist, and author of the memoir *Being Jazz*. She has a docu-series about her life called *I Am Jazz* on TLC, which started airing in July 2015. She was named to Time's "Most Influential Teens" list two years in a row, was one of Huffington Post's "14 Most Fearless Teens," and was the youngest person ever featured on Out's "Out 100," as well as on Advocate's "40 Under 40" list. In 2014, she was named a Human Rights Campaign Youth Ambassador and received LogoTV's Youth Trailblazer Award.

Shelagh McNicholas has illustrated many books for children, including *I Am Jazz*, *The Perfect Pony*, and *Little Ballet Star*. She lives in England.

AWARDS AND LISTS:

A 2015 Rainbow List Selection (Rainbow Round Table of the American Library Association)



November 10th 2022

Diane Bruni
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Bruni,

Thank you for submitting a statement of concern regarding the book *I am Jazz* by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings. After receiving your statement, I formed a committee with a cross-section of employees - and these are our findings.

In your Statement of Concern, you recommended that the Library remove the book from all branches. The book was published in 2014 and the Library purchased three copies for the Juvenile Non-Fiction collection in 2019. The book is in non-fiction because it is a memoir. It is shelved with other books in the sociology section because of the topic. These three copies circulated a total of 26 times over the last three years.

The committee noted your comments that the book pushed propaganda instead of a story or plot and portrays explicit sexual orientation on a minor. Jazz Jennings is a well-known public figure with a reality TV show. The book is published by a well-established mainstream publisher. The book does not mention sexuality or have any references to sex.

Any family who wished to have a conversation about this topic with their child might use this book. Families might utilize a book such as this to discuss someone in their child's life who is transgender. The purchase of any item by the St. Tammany Parish Library is not an affirmation of the content of the item and each family in our Parish has the right and responsibility to make decisions regarding what their own children will read or hear.

The committee noted your comments about having materials that represented traditional gender roles. We have an extensive collection of materials that depict traditional families and gender roles. We also have biographies and autobiographies on a diverse group of role models, including several on Lewis and Clark and a few on Father Junipero Serra.

Parents are the ultimate deciders of which books and media their children will consume. This book is an age-appropriate approach to an ongoing national conversation and it meets the Library's criteria for selection of a children's picture book. The Committee agreed that it is age appropriate, could be useful to families, and voted that it will remain in the library.

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PH: (985) 871-1219 FAX: (985) 871-1224

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Discover what's inside ★

If you wish to appeal the decision of this committee to the Library Board of Control, you can contact Assistant Director Brent Geiger at brentg@stpl.us to be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Board of Control.

Sincerely,

Kelly LaRocca
Director

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Statement of Concern about Library Resources



Intellectual freedom in a public library necessitates selecting some materials that may be considered controversial by some individuals or groups. Reasons often cited for materials considered offensive include use of profanity, divergent viewpoints, controversial authors, sexual content, and depictions of violence and criminal acts. The acquisition of such materials does not imply approval or endorsement of their contents. The selection criteria used by the St. Tammany Parish Library must remain broad and flexible in order to provide a collection that supports the broad range of interests and diverse backgrounds of the citizens of St. Tammany Parish.

Date 8/23/2022

Name DIANE BRUNI

Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

State [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Representing ☒ (self) _____ (organization)

1. Resource on which you are commenting:

☒ Book

____ Newspaper

____ Other

____ Magazine

____ Content of Library Program

____ Audiovisual

____ Electronic Resource

2. Title

My Rainbow

Author/Producer

Trinity + Deshanna Neal

3. What brought this title to your attention?

CONTENT

4. Did you review the entire item? If not, what sections did you review?

yes

5. What course of action do you recommend in regard to this resource?

Remove from Library

6. Please state your reasons for making this recommendation. To what in the resource do you object? Please be specific: cite pages, scenes or sections. Consider commenting on the resource as a whole, as well as being specific on the matters which concern you.

(No page numbers) Content is more sex/gender propaganda rather than a true story or plot. Uses terminology beyond the age appropriate child it is aimed at.

7. In its place, what materials would you recommend on this topic?

None - This topic is not appropriate for any child!!

NOTE:

This statement will be referred to a Library Resource Review Committee. You will be advised in writing of the committee's decision. Thank you for your concern and input.

My Rainbow by Trinity and DeShanna Neal; illustrated by Art Twink

Kokila (Imprint of Penguin Young Readers, Penguin/Random House), 2020

Publisher's summary: A dedicated mom puts love into action as she creates the perfect rainbow-colored wig for her transgender daughter, based on the real-life experience of mother-daughter advocate duo Trinity and DeShanna Neal

Library of Congress Subject headings:

Transgender people, Juvenile fiction.

Wigs, Juvenile fiction.

Families, Juvenile fiction.

Autism, Juvenile fiction.

African Americans, Juvenile fiction.

Picture books for children.

STPL owns four copies at Covington, Lacombe, Mandeville, and Slidell.

Purchased in November, 2020. Available on shelf on November 25, 2020.

Shelved in Picture Book collection. Call number E Nea

Total Circulation of all book copies: 23

REVIEWS

Kirkus Reviews (07/15/2020):

A loving mother helps her daughter express herself and feel like a rainbow. Trinity, an autistic, Black, transgender girl wishes she had long hair. But growing it out is a struggle because she hates hair touching her neck. Seeing her daughter's sadness, Trinity's mom, a Black cisgender woman with natural hair cropped close, listens to Trinity's concerns. At first, she tries to reassure Trinity that girls can wear their hair short, but Trinity still doesn't feel happy. Honoring the truth that Trinity knows herself best, Trinity's mom puts her love and devotion into creating a curly, teal, pink, and purple wig for Trinity, with some help from Trinity's older sibling. Richly colored and invitingly detailed full-spread illustrations that complement the story's title and theme accompany the text. The narrative centers a Black family whose members are depicted in the illustrations with skin that is a range of rich browns. In the midst of Trinity's struggle with her gender expression, her mom models listening and affirmation. She acknowledges that her own experiences with societal expectations of gender expression as a cisgender woman are different from Trinity's. Even as the story shifts to show Trinity's cisgender mother's perspective, Trinity's feelings remain the focus and her happiness the motivation. Apart from the use of person-first language ("kids with autism") instead of identity-first language, Neal and Neal emphasize that all aspects of Trinity's identity deserve celebration and make her a masterpiece. (This book was reviewed digitally with 10.8-by-17-inch double-page spreads viewed at 60.9% of actual size.) A revolutionary representation of joy and self-expression. (Picture book. 4-7) COPYRIGHT(2020) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

School Library Journal (09/01/2020):

PreS-Gr 2--A lively #OwnVoices picture book tribute to a family's unwavering support of their transgender daughter, written by a mother-daughter advocate duo and based on their experiences. Trinity, who is a Black transgender girl, liked to play with her siblings, her dolls, and her pet pig, Peter Porker. One day, Trinity expressed frustration that she couldn't be a girl because she didn't have long hair. She needed long hair to feel like herself. When Trinity's mother pointed out her own short hair, Trinity explained, "People don't care if cisgender girls like you have short hair. But it's different for transgender girls. I need long hair!" The family took a trip to the beauty store. None of the wigs seemed to be the best choice for Trinity. Mom took matters into her own hands and crafted a one-of-a-kind rainbow wig just for her daughter. Trinity loved it: "It's me, Mom. My hair has finally come!" The text's frank and refreshing usage of terms such as cisgender will spark necessary conversations between children and caregivers. Twink's digital illustrations are vibrant and colorful just like Trinity and feature small but important details, including a beauty store employee named Maya wearing a "they/them" pronoun name tag. Some readers may feel that a few details could have been expanded on, such as Trinity's autism, which is acknowledged throughout the book but is not the main focus. VERDICT There are very few books widely published and readily available that spotlight Black trans girls and women; this picture book is an affirming, uplifting story to add to school and public library collections.--Allison Staley, Lake Oswego P.L., OR
Copyright 2020 School Library Journal, LLC Used with permission.

Publishers Weekly (09/07/2020):

In their #OwnVoices picture book debut, mother-daughter duo and transgender rights advocates DeShanna and Trinity Neal center a Black transgender girl looking for hair that suits her gender expression. Inspired by the younger coauthor, protagonist Trinity's gender "was part of what made her a masterpiece, just like her autism and her Black skin." Trinity feels a keen desire for long hair like that on the dolls she shares with nonbinary sibling Hyperion, despite hating "how it made her itchy when it was growing out." With inspiration from sibling Lucien, their mom sets out to create the perfect multicolored wig for Trinity--one that doesn't trigger the girl's sensitivities and that aligns with her "already perfect" natural curls. Artist Twink's inviting use of color highlights the family's warm home and the bright rainbow wig--an object that makes Trinity feel like a more authentic version of herself: "It's me, Mom. My hair has finally come!" A joyful family story that emphasizes the importance of listening and loving people for who they are. Ages 4-8. (Oct.) Copyright 2020 Publishers Weekly, LLC Used with permission.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

DeShanna and Trinity Neal are a mother-daughter team of writers, advocates for black and transgender rights and awareness, and have been featured in major publications such as National Geographic, The Advocate, and Essence. DeShanna and Trinity write to foster understanding between transgender, cisgender, and nonbinary children.

Art Twink is a creator and lover of all things queer, colorful, and cute. They've worked on activism for prison abolition, transgender liberation, and mental health issues. Catch them @art_twink for more stories of queer brown happiness.

AWARDS AND LISTS:

Kirkus Reviews Best Children's Book 2020

2021 American Library Association #RainbowBookList Top 10 Pick

Parent's Magazine Book Club Pick

University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education Best Book for Young Readers 2020



September 30th 2022

Diane Bruni
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Bruni,

Thank you for submitting a statement of concern regarding the book *My Rainbow* by Trinity and DeShanna Neal. After receiving your statement, I formed a committee with a cross-section of employees – most of whom are parents themselves, and these are our findings.

The book *My Rainbow* was vetted and published in 2020 by an imprint of a large, reputable publishing house. It was a 2020 Recommended Read by *Parenting Magazine*, a *Kirkus Reviews* Best Children's Book 2020, and a University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education Best Book for Young Readers 2020. The Library has owned the book since November of 2020 and it has been checked out 23 times.

The committee specifically addressed your concern that the book is more propaganda than a real story or plot. This book is based on actual events. It tells the story of a family supporting their transgender child with love and acceptance. It portrays a modern, African American family whose transgender child is also autistic. The family listens attentively to the child's desire to have long hair to complete her wish to be seen as a transgender girl, and comes together to find a solution so that she can feel accepted. The mother works through the night and into the early morning to create a custom wig and provide what her child has expressed as a need to feel accepted for who she is.

This book addresses specific issues on topics that may appeal more to some families than others. The discussion of these issues does mean that the book contains words and phrases that may be offensive to some families. At the same time, these words and phrases may be the exact language another family may need to address similar situations regarding gender identity happening within their own families. The purchase of any item by the St. Tammany Parish Library is not an affirmation of the content of the item and each family in our Parish has the right and responsibility to make decisions regarding what their own children will read or hear.

The committee ultimately decided that overall, the story is positively and lovingly handled. The committee recognized that the intersectionality of the story about an autistic child who is Black and transgender, was significant and well done. This story may offer tools for families who are

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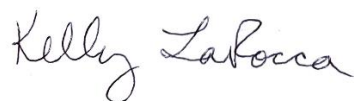


searching for a way to identify and work through similar issues with their own children, or children who may know someone (a friend) who identifies as transgender. For those who read this book and identify as transgender, it might acknowledge their personal circumstance and offer useful tools to move forward in a positive way.

Parents are the ultimate deciders of which books and media their children will consume. This book is an age-appropriate approach to an ongoing national conversation and it meets the Library's criteria for selection of a children's picture book. The committee voted that the item will remain in the library.

If you wish to appeal the decision of this committee to the Library Board of Control, you can contact Assistant Director Brent Geiger at brentg@stpl.us to be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Library Board of Control.

Sincerely,



Kelly LaRocca
Director

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Director's Report — December, 2022

Policy Update

Library Cards

- In keeping with our policy that parents and guardians are the decision-makers for their minor children, we have expanded access to materials options for parents and guardians of minor children.
- The legwork to make these options available was as follows:
 - We changed the collection code type on all of our over 640,000 loanable items.
 - This effort included a combination of changes within our computer system, as well as manual changes.
 - We worked with our downloadable vendors to manually update approximately 10,000 codes.
- I want to commend our Technical Services Department for working so hard to make this available as quickly as possible. I also want to commend our staff in our branches for working with parents and guardians to update their child's existing cards.
- The new card kickoff was Monday, November 21, 2022. Parents and guardians of minor children can choose additional options on their child's existing library card, for the level of access they want their children to have when checking out items at one of the 12 branch locations of the St. Tammany Parish Library (STPL) and when their minor children use the digital features of the STPL Mobile App.
- The card types in a nutshell are as follows:
 - **Juvenile Full Restriction Card** — Cardholders may only check all children's materials. Cardholders cannot check out Young Adult (YA) or Adult materials.
 - **Juvenile Semi-restriction Card** — Cardholders all children's materials, and YA fiction books. Cardholders may not check Adult books, or adult nonfiction items that have a YA sticker, or magazines in the teen area.
 - ***Juvenile Card**— Cardholders may check out any loanable physical item in the library except R-rated DVDs.
 - ***Juvenile Unrestricted** — Cardholders may check out any loanable physical item in the library, including R-rated DVD's, with parental permission.
- The St. Tammany Parish Library internet Policy remains that parents and guardians of children ages 10 — 17 will choose whether or not their child may use the internet in the library without supervision for all card types. All children ages 9 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times in St. Tammany Parish libraries and must be present when their child uses the internet.
- On Jan. 3, 2023, all juvenile cards that have not been specified will expire and will require an update, either over the phone, or in a branch.

MARKETING AND OUTREACH

Byron Holdiman, Genealogy Librarian - Covington, Daughters of the War of 1812 - Tour of the Genealogy Room, Covington (16 in attendance)

Robert Barnes, Reference Librarian at Causeway Branch, Adult Services, Council on Aging St Tammany Folsom Visit, October 24, 2022

Sarah Aucoin, Reference Librarian at Slidell, Top Scams in Louisiana, Slidell COAST

Barret Reich, Reference Librarian, COAST Mandeville (10/27, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM)

Barret Reich, Reference Librarian, COAST Lacombe (11/28, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM)

Evan Kramer, Reference Librarian Covington, Tech Class and Assistance, Covington Activity Center - COAST

Evan Kramer, Reference Librarian Covington, Tech Class and Assistance, Bush Activity Center - COAST

Evan Kramer, Reference Librarian Covington, Tech Class and Assistance, Mandeville Activity Center - COAST

Evan Kramer, Reference Librarian Covington, Library Podcast, Covington Branch Library

Three Rivers Art Festival Covington, November 13, 2022

- Robert Barnes, Reference Librarian at Causeway Branch
- Jessica Aucoin
- Carly Nguyen
- Cathy Badon
- Susan Badon
- Eugenie Brignac
- Erika Dawson
- Jenny Mayer
- Amy Bouton

Susan Badon, Children's Services Librarian Madisonville

- Kids Klub House, Storytimes, 11/14 and 11/28

Jessica Aucoin, Children's Librarian at Mandeville Branch

- Storytime, Kinder Haus Montessori , October 24th, November 28th
- Storytime Field Trip, Mandeville Library, November 7th , December 6th
- Three Rivers Arts Festival, Downtown Covington , November 12th
- STEAM event day, Children's Museum of St. Tammany ,November 23rd
- Storywalk, Northlake Nature Center, November 22nd

Erika Dawson, Children's Services Librarian, Causeway Branch

- Start Community Health Center Baby Shower
- Children's Museum STEM DAYS

Carly Nguyen, Children's Services Librarian, South Slidell

- Dec. 2nd Outreach at St. Margaret Mary
- Dec. 6th Outreach at Abney Elementary

Monster Mash, October 22nd

- Erika Dawson

Senior Luncheon at Harbor Center on November 8th – Jillian Boudreaux, Adult Services Coordinator; Ellen John, Reference Coordinator

October 26th – Check it Out TV Show: Jillian Boudreaux Taped for Garden Fest

Lake 94.7:

- November 4th- Amy Bouton
- November 18th- Kelly LaRocca
- December 2nd – Jillian Boudreaux and Amy Bouton (Also Highway 104.7)

Amy Bouton Presented to Leadership Northshore December class December 7th
St. Tammany Parish Library COVID-19 Oral Histories were placed in a time capsule in the Slidell Museum

Rhonda Speiss:

- October 26, A-Z Preschool and 1st Class Academy.
- October 27, 2022 -Lacombe Mandeville Headstart and Chahta-Ima Elementary School.
- November 2, 2022 –A-Z Preschool and 1st Class Academy.
- November 16, 2022 -- Lacombe Mandeville Headstart and Chahta-Ima Elementary School

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT:

Noelle Williams: Appointes as ALA's New Members Roundtable (NMRT) Communications Committee Chair for 2022-2023

Byron Holdiman, Genealogy Librarian, Illinois State Genealogical Society - Local Societies Leadership Meeting, taught How to Prepare Members for Leadership Positions

Sarah Aucoin, Reference Librarian at Slidell, attended CANDID Network Days 2022

Ellen John, Reference Coordinator - Admin, LLA Board Meetings 10/25, 11/7, 12/2

Ellen John, Reference Coordinator - Admin, Conference Committee Meetings, 10/26

Abby Mayfield – Leadership Northshore November and December class

Amy Bouton – Chevron Community Fellows November Class

Chevron Community Fellows December Class: Shark Tank Competition. Our group (STPL), YMCA, and Habitat for Humanity East St. Tammany won and were awarded \$6000 from private local business to present collaborative youth workshops — *Write your Own Reality Check* —for tweens and teens in 2023 on physical, mental, financial fitness, community resources, and responsibility to your community.

Amy Bouton, LMCC Conference, November 1-3rd, Indianapolis

11/3-6. Jennifer Rifino and Abby Mayfield attended the ALA's annual Young Adult Services Symposium in Baltimore.

Amy Strain attended the Library Foundation Meeting in Mad Nov 8.

Tanya DiMaggio attended the Regional Stakeholder Meeting for the Louisiana Digital Equity Plan on Friday, October 28.

Tanya DiMaggio and Brent Geiger attended the State Library of Louisiana's Administrators Conference on Friday, November 4.

WEBINAR ATTENDANCE

Nov. 30, Spotlight on Safety - Addressing Threats in Public Libraries

- Jillian Boudreaux
- Libby Garriga
- Nichola Klyle

Jillian Boudreaux –Oct. 19, Beanstack

Nov. 1, Novelist Reader's Advisory Training

- Amy Strain
- Nichola Klyle
- Ellen John
- Sarah Aucoin
- Evan Kramer
- Robert Barnes
- Taylor Leblanc
- Barret Reich

Nov. 3, Newsbank Training

- Amy Strain
- All Reference Librarians & Ellen John
- Nichola Klyle

Rhonda Spiess –Byron Holdiman, Genealogy Librarian, Illinois State Genealogical Society Virtual Conference

Robert Barnes, Genealogy Resources Louisiana State Library, November 7, 2022

Robert Barnes, Readers' Advisory 101 from Louisiana State Library, November 15, 2022

Robert Barnes, Louisiana Legal Resources from Louisiana State Library, November 30, 2022

Reference Department Database trainings (all Reference Librarians & Ellen): Gale training, 12/1

Libby Garriga (multiple webinars)

Jane Johnson (multiple webinars)

Emily Stephan

Viktoria Alexander

Robert Barnes, Erika Dawson, Adrienne Ivy, and Iriana Lonon all attended webinars.

Personnel

Seth Mattei will be the new Circulation Manager at South Slidell

Nichola Kleyle will move to the Covington Branch on December 19

Alex Hughes will start in the IT Department December 12th

WEBSITE

October 23- December 8

87,545 Sessions;

51,419 users

New visitors comprised 41.1% of these sessions

October 2022 Service Statistics

Branch	Adult Books	CD	DVD	ILL	Juv Bks	Mag	Pbks	YA	Virtual	Circulation	Computer Usage	Door Count	Wireless Inside	Wireless Outside
Admin/Annex	495	45	126	46	187	3		35		937				
Abita	264	33	282	27	629			21		1,256	145	1,770	88	294
Bush	181	14	427	5	173	9		8		817	72	732	58	134
Causeway	1894	117	941	44	1757	11		130		4,894	577	4,986	560	1531
Covington	3279	299	1643	33	3981	65	164	195		9,659	1,245	6,070	2889	1426
Folsom	426	53	305	10	452	59		25		1,330	340	1,289	155	228
Lacombe	267	11	376	1	163	6		37		861	218	2,779	104	170
Lee Road	253	35	135	2	280	2	3	12		722	65	593	63	235
Madisonville	1154	140	370	20	1379	22		83		3,168	333	3,853	950	584
Mandeville	2434	352	976	39	3796	47		195		7,839	1,052	6,106	925	653
Pearl River	389	21	212	18	352	11	1	26		1,030	235	2,040	90	194
Slidell	3370	342	1387	37	3339	261	345	323		9,404	2,088	11,419	1616	1209
South Slidell	691	69	534	13	908	30	10	70		2,325	1,371	5,142	702	1264
Virtual ¹									30,353	30,353				
Total	15,097	1,531	7,714	295	17,396	526	523	1,160	30,353	74,595	7,741	46,779	8,200	7,922

1 - Virtual stats include Overdrive, Tumblebooks, 3M Cloud Library, Rbdigital, Hoopla

CD=CompactDisc; DVD=DigitalVersatileDisc; ILL=InterLibraryLoan; Mag=Magazines
Ppks=Paperbacks; YA=Young Adult

Patrons Registered: **558**

November 2022 Service Statistics

Branch	Adult Books	CD	DVD	ILL	Juv Bks	Mag	Pbks	YA	Virtual	Circulation	Computer Usage	Door Count	Wireless Inside	Wireless Outside
Admin/Annex	255	47	140	27	168	2		8		647				
Abita	441	49	302	10	447	12		34		1,295	150	1,635	81	258
Bush	190	17	392	5	224	9		4		841	79	794	31	138
Causeway	1832	186	763	34	1759	25		147		4,746	465	4,596	518	1416
Covington	2842	284	1715	33	3240	80	97	197		8,488	1,087	4,763	2419	1256
Folsom	452	37	188	5	209	36		12		939	233	1,036	138	207
Lacombe	201	63	290	3	150	2		12		721	173	2,696	103	153
Lee Road	275	42	176		415		11	24		943	63	637	59	215
Madisonville	976	177	506	29	1547	17		69		3,321	332	4,010	961	592
Mandeville	2204	287	852	36	2674	21		187		6,261	828	5,331	836	605
Pearl River	406	30	255	11	283	16	7	16		1,024	194	1,885	76	180
Slidell	3196	284	1134	28	3397	160	245	327		8,771	1,745	9,546	1268	917
South Slidell	721	33	509	24	708	20		59		2,074	1,188	4,127	613	1048
Virtual ¹									29,463	29,463				
Total	13,991	1,536	7,222	245	15,221	400	360	1,096	29,463	69,534	6,537	41,056	7,103	6,985

1 - Virtual stats include Overdrive, Tumblebooks, 3M Cloud Library, Rbdigital, Hoopla

CD=CompactDisc; DVD=DigitalVersatileDisc; ILL=InterLibraryLoan; Mag=Magazines
Ppks=Paperbacks; YA=Young Adult

Patrons Registered: **530**

YTD Jan - Nov. 2022
Service Statistics

Branch	Adult Books	CD	DVD	ILL	Juv Bks	Mag	Pbks	YA	Virtual	Total Circulation	Computer Usage	Door Count	Wireless Inside	Wireless Outside
Admin/Annex	2,955	613	1,482	400	1,793	5		194		7,442				
Abita	6,248	550	3,576	179	7,243	160		318		18,274	2,072	20,436	972	3031
Bush	1,990	144	4,429	95	2,175	64		141		9,038	978	8,981	406	1361
Causeway	22,453	2,215	11,074	465	21,450	199		2,011		59,867	6,246	54,645	5588	15693
Covington	38,429	3,806	20,072	393	40,865	1,124	1,334	2,306		108,329	14,293	66,305	26511	13878
Folsom	5,261	388	5,322	76	3,917	651		315		15,930	3,046	13,611	1372	2024
Lacombe	2,474	259	3,273	37	2,120	23		211		8,397	2,458	27,196	1174	1701
Lee Road	3,472	348	1,931	43	4,051	62	111	150		10,168	648	7,260	617	2268
Madisonville	14,526	2,011	5,896	288	20,661	270		1,241		44,893	4,052	41,413	10074	6026
Mandeville	27,705	3,714	10,666	426	43,906	997	51	2,681		90,146	12,261	67,252	9262	6947
Pearl River	4,553	306	2,414	204	3,413	101	456	210		11,657	2,957	20,647	869	1860
Slidell	41,555	4,061	17,664	505	44,640	2,246	3,498	4,330		118,499	22,738	122,304	14800	12267
South Slidell	7,415	929	6,581	185	8,094	156	44	796		24,200	14,533	51,775	7670	12909
Virtual ¹									331,858	331,858				
Total	179,036	19,344	94,380	3,296	204,328	6,058	5,494	14,904	331,858	858,698	86,282	501,825	79,315	79,965

1 - Virtual stats include Overdrive, Tumblebooks, 3M Cloud Library, Rbdigital, Hoopla

CD=CompactDisc; DVD=DigitalVersatileDisc; ILL=InterLibraryLoan; Mag=Magazines
Ppks=Paperbacks; YA=Young Adult

Patrons Registered: 5,953

Strategic Planning Committee Update

Carson Block and Susan Kent are ready to present a draft of the goals and a new mission and vision statement. The presentation is on hold for a short time until the Board and Administration can give strategic planning the time and attention needed to complete the process.