

Avalon Free Public Library
Board of Trustees
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES JANUARY 11, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Avalon Free Public Library was held on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 4:00 pm in the Library Meeting Room.

Attendance: Public - - - - - 0

The meeting was called to order by President Ewing. Ms. Ewing read the Open Public Meetings Act. Pledge of allegiance.

Roll call:

Present: President Jacquie Ewing, Trustee Kathy Fox, Trustee Barbara Juzaitis, Vice-President Carl Mattia, Trustee Kate Nestor, Trustee Michele Petrucci, Secretary D. Lynn Schwartz

Absent: Trustee Richard Hoy, Mayor John McCorristin, Treasurer Jim Thatcher

Also present:

Erin Brown, Director
Monica Coskey, 7 Mile Times

Minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes Memorialized– December 14, 2023

Motion made by Vice-President Mattia, seconded by Trustee Petrucci that the minutes be approved as submitted. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Closed Session Meeting Minutes Memorialized– December 14, 2023

Motion made by Secretary Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Petrucci that the minutes be approved as submitted. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Board Officers & Recording Secretary:

Michele Petrucci noted the responses from officers willing to continue serving and read aloud the name and position to be voted on:

President:	Jacquie Ewing
Vice President:	Carl Mattia
Treasurer:	Jim Thatcher
Secretary:	D. Lynn Schwartz
Recording Secretary:	Kimberly Mastriana

Motion made by Trustee Juzaitis, seconded by Trustee Fox to approve the Board Officers and Recording Secretary for the year 2024. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Check Authorization:

Motion made by Vice President Mattia, seconded by Trustee Juzaitis to approve the payment of 39 checks totaling \$273,540.83. Motion passed unanimously by those present. A list of the checks is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Directors' Report:

Director Brown's report was forwarded to the Trustees via e-mail and is on file with the Recording Secretary. The director began with the 2023 Community Service Survey, which received over 650 responses. Offseason special kids' events continue to be well attended with over 170 patrons in attendance at the Happy Noon Year event. Potential building

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projects with available expansion options will be updated at the February 8th meeting. Request for proposal for marketing has been noticed and is scheduled to close January 18, 2024. Next month the director will update trustees with proposals received. Summer 2024 events planning continues for community partnerships, concerts, and speaker events. Library staff continue to investigate new approaches for author events. The trustees had a lengthy discussion regarding this topic. Due to the drastically increased author rates, options to pursue further may include spending caps, the possibility of one top name author every other year along with new author debuts. Concert planning for summer 2024 continues, including discussions with Bay Atlantic Symphony. It was noted that the variety of genres included in the 2023 season resulted in well attended Thursday concerts. Check It Out Community Report 2023 was distributed, and highlights include 953 new members, business services remain popular, History Center Facebook growth at 193% and 86,700 websites visits, the highest to date.

Seven Mile Publishing Update:

Monica Coskey began with December email statistics. Check it Out newsletter had 51% opens and Best of the Best 2023 had 73%. Total followers- Facebook 2,196 and Instagram 1,536. Facebook's top post for highest reach and reaction was Festive Friday and highest comment was the Thanksgiving Eve puzzle. Completed projects include the February/March mailer postcard and kids' welcome brochure.

Motion made by Secretary Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Petrucci to approve the History Center collections acquisitions. Motion passed unanimously by those present. The acquisitions include:

1. Kathy Stickney via Kimberly Mastriana: Laminated artwork (hand-drawn) for The One Eyed King coffee house Laminated menu for The One Eyed King B&W photo of Louis J. Rosato, Jr., owner of The One Eyed King **2.** Tim McFarland: 4 x color photographs of Sam's Food Market **3.** Joseph Stickney III: 1965 B&W photo of Joseph III & Robert Stickney 1930s B&W photo of Joseph Stickney, Jr. (donor's father) in Avalon B&W photo of donor's grandmother & sister in Avalon Set of B&W photos post Storm of '62 2 x color photos of John Walter with Old Avalon Blvd in background **4.** Rose Marie Chew: Tonio's Pizza magnets Phil Barber of Kudos American Grille business cards 29th St. & Boardwalk Skee Ball tickets 2007 Avalon Recreation summer schedule of events 1963-1967 Avalon Water & Sewerage bills addressed to Franklin & Rosemarie Chew Color photograph of Frank Giampa on his boat 2 x plastic Avalon Supply Co. Inc. wallets **5.** Kevin Scarpa: Items collected by K. Scarpa from Harry Clayton property at 1339 First Ave. 2 x framed photos 1994 Borough resolution plaque honoring Haring M. Clayton, 1994 retirement plaque, 2008 Cape May Co. Freeholders resolution # 330-08 plaque honoring Harry M. Clayton Mugs & tankards ID cards 2 x postcards, 1 x personal card Firefighters coat **6.** Avalon Fire Dept.: 2 x MSA Altair gas monitors Bullard Thermal Imager **7.** Dropped off at AFPL – no donor info.: Avalon Monopoly Board

Director Brown sought a motion to hire Alicia Arnold as parttime Sr. Museum Assistant at \$23.00 per hour, 19 hours per week.

Motion made by Vice-President Mattia, seconded by Trustee Schwartz. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Director Brown sought a motion to hire Lauree McCardle as year-round fulltime Program Assistant with a starting annual salary range of \$52,000.00 to \$56,000.00.

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Motion made by Secretary Schwartz seconded by Vice-President Mattia. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

RESOLUTION 1-2024- RESOLUTION OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE BOROUGH OF AVALON REGARDING ITS CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN THROUGH THE REORGANIZATION MEETING OF JANUARY 2024 AND AUTHORIZING ITS NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS TO SIGN VARIOUS CHECKS

Motion was made by Trustee Petrucci, seconded by Trustee Nestor to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

RESOLUTION 2-2024- RESOLUTION OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE BOROUGH OF AVALON AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN LEGAL SERVICES FOR 2024

Motion was made by Trustee Petrucci, seconded by Trustee Nestor to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

RESOLUTION 3-2024- RESOLUTION OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE BOROUGH OF AVALON REAPPOINTING VARIOUS LIBRARY PERSONNEL FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD, PBEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2024

Motion was made by Secretary Schwartz, seconded by Trustee Nestor to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

RESOLUTION 4-2024- RESOLUTION OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE BOROUGH OF AVALON DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE AVALON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024

Motion was made by Trustee Petrucci, seconded by Trustee Nestor to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Trustee Juzaitis, seconded by Trustee Fox to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those present. Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly F. Mastriana, Recording Secretary

APPROVED: _____
Jacquie Ewing, Board President

ATTESTED: _____
D. Lynn Schwartz, Board Secretary