

Avalon Free Public Library
Board of Trustees
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MARCH 10, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Avalon Free Public Library was held on Thursday, March 10, 2022 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 Richard Hoy, Trustee Kathy Fox, Vice President Carl Mattia, Trustee McCorristin, Trustee Kate Nestor and Secretary Lynn Schwartz

Absent: Mayor Martin L. Pagliughi, Trustee Michele Petrucci and Treasurer Jim Thatcher

Also present:

Erin Brown, Director

Patty Davis and Monica Coskey, 7 Mile Times

Public Comments:

None

Minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes Memorialized– February 10, 2022

Motion made by Trustee McCorristin, seconded by Trustee Hoy that the minutes be approved as submitted. Motion passed unanimously by remainder of those present.

Check Authorization:

Motion made by Trustee McCorristin, seconded by Trustee Hoy to approve the payment of 50 checks totaling \$287,847.77. 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 personnel updates, which included Linda Duffy's intent to retire February 1, 2023 and seasonal recommendations. The masking guidelines have been implemented with the CDS's new recommendations. The onsite portion of the 2021 audit is complete, with a report to follow. The Italian Culture Group party had high attendance. The proposal for Bay Atlantic Symphony was distributed for the summer concert. The History Center received nine new historic home applicants and they may expand marketing for this program. Portable program equipment has been implemented to reduce set up time for the staff. Free space in the library will be used for staff shared workspace in the upcoming months. Historic Aerials is a new resource that allows viewing of aerial maps throughout the nation during different periods of time. It is in the testing phase and is expected to go live in April. Plans for the History Center building project may be available by June. There was also discussion among the trustees regarding the addition of other cultural groups and the Maris Stella Church's original records, which are now being stored in a fire proof safe and converted to digital.

Director Brown sought a motion to post a job opening to hire up to two part-time seasonal Library Assistants a rate of \$18.00 per hour for up to 19 hours per week for ten weeks beginning June 19th through August 27th with an estimated pay cost of \$7,000.00 for two

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employees.

Motion made by Trustee Hoy seconded by Trustee McCorristin. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Director Brown sought a motion to post a job opening to hire two part-time seasonal Program Assistants a rate of \$20.00 per hour for up to 19 hours per week for ten weeks, with an estimated pay cost of \$7,600.00 for two employees.

Motion made by Trustee Nestor seconded by Secretary Schwartz. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

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

1. Dee Phillips – October 2021 • 1895 handwritten letter about conditions & life in Avalon during severe winter storm • 1882 Board of Education teaching certificate • Francis Hood Smith Cape May Co. 8th Grade school certificate -1911, tied with red & white ribbon • Francis Hood Smith OC High School Diploma – 1915 • Francis Hood Smith OC High School Alumni Assoc. certificate - 1915 • 5 page paper by Francis H. Smith – “Progressive America” – 1915 • Handwritten speech (Dee thinks maybe commencement speech by Francis H. Smith) • Avalon property Deeds from 1888 to 1925 AVALON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY & HISTORY CENTER REPORT – February 2021 Report to the Library Board of Trustees March 10, 2022 – contents cover – February 5 to March 3, 2022 • Borough of Avalon tax records from 1895 onwards (George T. Moxey, Carrie H. Smith and Walter A. Smith) • Title searches/ Bonds & Warrants • Walter A. Smith post office department letters & certificate • Post Office coin bag & letter • Francis H. Smith WWI Red Cross certificate • 1962 3 page Wells Memorial Presbyterian Church “historical monograph” by Rev. Dr. Joseph MacCarroll • Souvenir program for Avalon Board of Trade 1st Annual benefit – 1911 • Photo Developing envelope addressed to Mrs H.H. Phillips containing glass negative slide • Box of very many glass negative slides. (Digitized by Jonathan Gibson, images currently in Dropbox) Images are of family groups, individuals, scenes of Avalon, approx. date 1890s-early 1900s • 9 x 8”x10” black & white photos of Avalon (?) scenes • 7 x 8”x10” black & white photos of parade (military?) along streets of Avalon • Black & white photographs of aftermath of Sept. 1944 storm with handwritten notes on reverse • 15 x “The Billows” (inc. 1st edition) OC High School student run newspaper publication, belonged to Francis H. Smith • 4 x June 1915 OC High School Commencement programs • 1 x June 1915 OC High School Baccalaureate Service program • 1 sepia photograph of 2 men & boat on Avalon beach • 2 x postcard type photographs • 1 x postcard of Romney Place, CMCH • Avalon Development Co. price list • 1905 Peermont-Avalon booklet • Avalon – “The Pictures Tell the Story” booklet • Avalon Development Co. brochure • Avalon brochure • 1942 Cape May Co. booklet • Phillips Esso Service windshield cleaning notice • 5 x Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co. cards • 7”x12” sepia studio photographic portrait on board. Handwriting on reverse identifies subject as Walter A. Smith. Photographer = P.E. Chillman (Chillman died in 1915 at the age of 73. He was a pioneer of photography in Philadelphia. He opened his studio on Arch Street in the early 1860’s) • 10.5”x17” sepia studio photographic portrait on board. Handwriting on reverse identifies subject as Carrie Hood Smith, in her wedding dress. Photographer = P.E. Chillman 2. Ellen Bentsen – October 2021 • Avalon Development Co. sepia postcard, stamped 1910. Handwriting on reverse, addressed to Miss Harriet Evans 3. Left in mailbox, no donor – October 2021 • Color photograph of employees at Avalon Fishing Pier café? Late ‘60s, early ‘70s? 4. AFPL – Erin Brown – 10/19/2021 • 5 x Avalon business fridge magnets

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• Assorted menus from Avalon restaurants & food stores 5. Barbara Garrison – 10/25/2021 • Jack's Place VIP card AVALON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY & HISTORY CENTER REPORT – February 2021 Report to the Library Board of Trustees March 10, 2022 – contents cover – February 5 to March 3, 2022 • Phil's Deli business card 6. Avalon Police Dept./ Sgt. Steve Bowers- 11/11/2021 • Avalon NJ Beach Inspector badge • 8 x Various named /dated badge IDs 7. Lorna Robertson 12/14/2021 • 2004 Class Project :Avalon - Then & Now 8. Kimberly & Tonio Galdi – December 2021 • Tonio's street sign 9. Rev. David Montange – 12/20/2021 • 4 x Vacation Bible school T-Shirts • First United Methodist Church 125th anniversary panel 10. Elaine Scattergood – 01/25/2022 • Framed photo of Bill Smith painting • Framed black & with photo of Bill Smith painting Bob & Jon Baron's mother • Framed photo of painting by Ken Klauder (we have the original painting) • Matted & framed Bill Smith painting of 26th St school • Matted & framed Bill Smith painting of 15th St Coast Guard Station, presented to Avalon library in 1962 by Avalon Five Point Club (!) in memory of Mrs Arlene Derbyshire (newspaper clipping from Seven Mile Beach Reporter sept. 14, 1962 affixed to back – now loose) 11. Handed in at library – February 2022 • Hearn Brothers Cape May Co, street index • 1970s secretary's desk guide to punctuation & spelling (keep for reference/local interest only) 12. Dee Phillips – 02/14/2022 • 1915 Class Will (written by Francis H. Smith) • Walter A. Smith & Carrie Hood family Bible (in need of some restoration & preservation) • 7 x felt pennants • 1915 OC High School programs & booklets • "The Billows" OC High School student publication • 2 x B&W photographs of Peermont Hotel 13. Michele Petrucci – 02/17/2022 • Dune grass planting t-shirt • 2018 Avalon Bocce Cup tournament t-shirt

Seven Mile Publishing Update:

Patty Davis began by giving statistics for February; email tracking and social media reached approximately 20,000. Segmenting is going well to targeted groups and will focus more on their interests. The feature for March is "Read Across America", Avalon History Center's virtual exhibits and Women's History Month. The new history center exhibit was delivered and is being installed. Approval has been received for the ad in the 7 Mile Times and the 2022 Vacation Guide, this includes highlighting the library as a business center.

New Business:

RESOLUTION 7-2022- RESOLUTION OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE BOROUGH OF AVALON, ACKNOWLEDGING AND CELEBRATING THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ITALIAN CULTURE GROUP

Motion was made by Vice President Mattia, seconded by Trustee Hoy to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

RESOLUTION 8-2022- RESOLUTION OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE BOROUGH OF AVALON IN THE COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE CONTRACT WITH CARMEN J. LAROSA, RA., PP. FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HISTORY CENTER

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

Adjournment:

Motion made by Trustee Nestor, seconded by Secretary Schwartz to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those present. Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:28 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly F. Mastriana, Recording Secretary

APPROVED: _____
Jacquie Ewing, Board President

ATTESTED: _____
D. Lynn Schwartz, Board Secretary