

Avalon Free Public Library
Board of Trustees
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Avalon Free Public Library was held on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 4:00 pm in the Library Meeting Room.

Attendance: Public - - - - - 1

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 Richard Hoy, Trustee Barbara Juzaitis, Vice-President Carl Mattia, Trustee Michele Petrucci, Secretary D. Lynn Schwartz **Absent:** Mayor John McCorristin, Trustee Kate Nestor, Treasurer Jim Thatcher

Also present:

Erin Brown, Director
Monica Coskey, 7 Mile Times

Public Comments:

Pat Coyle, previous Trustee, now a member of the Avalon Garden Club thanked Erin Brown and the library for their assistance with the club's revised policies and procedures manual. Mrs. Coyle was thanked by the Trustees for her mentoring and contributions to the library and Board of Trustees.

Minutes:

Regular Meeting Minutes Memorialized– August 10, 2023

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

Check Authorization:

Motion made by Trustee Hoy, seconded by Trustee Petrucci to approve the payment of 40 checks totaling \$161,345.81. 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 statistics and referred to the circulation chart August 2019-August 2023, with 2023 exceeding overall year to date circulation for the previous four (4) years. Event attendance was up 113% over August 2022 with concerts a highlight, as well as author talks and kids' events. Streaming is now more popular than DVD borrowing. 2024-2026 Capital Planning timeline has shifted for approval from October to November to allow additional time to consider upcoming building projects. PODS offsite storage has been cleared out and removed from the parking lot. Mayor McCorristin's position on Buildings and Grounds and the Finance Committees will need to be discussed with President Ewing for his replacement. The position for youth services will be reposted before the end of the year. Library system update using a new provider, will produce a significant long cost savings from \$60,000 to approximately \$20,000 annually and go live in November. Zoom space is needed as a library service and the Director will reveal ideas at a future meeting. The Director updated the Trustees on the air testing report and HVAC clean up at the History Center.

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Director Brown sought a motion to hire one Library Assistants at \$18.50 per hour, 19 hours per week.

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

Director Brown sought a motion to change hours of operation on Fridays to 9:30 am-5:00 pm beginning in October for the offseason.

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

Seven Mile Publishing Update:

Monica Coskey began with email statistics. August emails had 51% opens and new books 69%. Total followers- Facebook 2,158 and Instagram 1,515. There were 93% desktop users and 7% mobile. Completed projects are the concert poster, Hometown Hero and brochures. They are currently working on the Railroad Mini Exhibit, October listing flyer, October/November postcard, digital newsletter and 7 Mile Holiday Times ad.

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:

Gary Jacketti- Plaster molds for Kite Girl sculpture, Original kite with school children names engraved, 5'x4' oil on canvas of interior of Fred's Tavern, 96th St. Mary & Tom McDevitt- Beach tags: 2002 daily tag, 2021 & 2 x 2022 Alice Marvel Messina- Black & white photo of donor & Shelby Matthews in 1948 or 1949 Baby Parade Bob Penrose- Local business flyers & info, 1998 Avalon Vacation Guide Al Haring- Plate & glass from Charlie's Luncheonette Ashtray from Marian's Pokerino, Prize from Marian's Pokerino, Charlie's Luncheonette ad from Lifeguards Ball Yearbook of 1969 Linda Cornog- Framed & matted painting by donor's grandmother Lavilla Cornog (1883-1974) of Family summer home "The Doghouse" which was where Windward condos are now Kathy Tenzinger- Avalon Players playbills, CDs containing photographs, music, promotional material for Avalon Players productions. Some are as yet unreadable. John Carr- Wooden fishing pole Gregory Depedro- 3 copies of well-known Avalon images John Walus- 1983-'84 Avalon Directory Cathy Barron (great granddaughter of William & Mary Barron)- Bob & Jon's TV repair shop sign, Avalon photographs from 1930s to 1990s, Barron's grocery store photos from 1930s and 1940s, 26th St. school class photos, Save the Cedar Island League documents from 1960s John Rich - 09/11/2023 ABP canvas bag an T-shirt from 1980-'81, the year the ABP won both the South Jersey and East Coast Lifeguards Championships

Adjournment:

Motion made by Trustee Juzaitis, seconded by Trustee Hoy to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those present. Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly F. Mastriana, Recording Secretary

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APPROVED: _____ ATTESTED: _____
Jacquie Ewing, Board President D. Lynn Schwartz, Board Secretary