

**Roeliff Jansen Community Library
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
August 19th, 2025**

Present: Chris Atkins

Barbara Barrantes-Vice President
Beth Gordon
Marian Dodds
Marilyn Gross
Colleen Lutz- Secretary
Ronnie McTiernan
Betsy Myers
Pat Placona- President
Steve Smith
Meg Wormley-Treasurer
Joan Wallstein
Tammy Gaskell, Director

Absent: None

Guests: Joyce Craw (Friends), Jill Lynan (Valatie), Jen Post (Claverack), Janet Scritzer (Hudson)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Pat Placona. Guests from the Valatie, Claverack, and Hudson libraries were welcomed by the Board.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the July minutes, and suggested edits were made via email prior to the meeting. Joan Wallstein made a motion to approve the minutes. Beth Gordon seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Meg Wormley gave the treasurer's report for July. There were no questions about the report from the Board. She noted that the library was entering into the slow income period.

Income of \$26,975 was \$16,323 over budget due to \$15,000 in grants as well as \$5,200 in Gala income.

Expenses of \$35,951 were \$3,547 over budget due to timing of bills for the new sign. The Friends donated funds to the library for the expense of the sign.

The Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (BTCF) fund investment earnings for the quarter were \$87,608 and fees were \$6,904. The fees and \$2,142 of income were accrued to June. A disbursement of \$225,000 was requested from the fund to pay for part of the pavilion and the roof repairs.

The audit will be complete and made available to the Treasurer by the end of August, and it will be available to the Board after that.

A motion was made to approve the warrant report by Chris Atkins. Beth Gordon seconded the motion, and all trustees voted in favor. The motion carried.

Director's Report

Tammy Gaskell presented the director's report. Meg asked why Hoopla circulation had not dropped with the addition of Blackstone? Tammy was unsure, but she thought that people were just not aware of the Blackstone availability yet.

Tammy reported on the MHLS road trip. One RJCL patron has visited all seventy libraries.

The Columbia County Library Association will have a booth at the Columbia County Fair. August 28th 9:30am -3:30pm is the day and time for RJCL.

The County Supervisors and Trustees Dinner is on October 27, 2025. The purpose of the dinner is to bring advocacy and understanding to the town supervisors in the county. The cost is \$50.00 per ticket.

Generator Project Updates- Tammy reported that BCI, the contractor for the generator, reported that the generator has shipped. The CREST grant disbursement must be signed by the lawyer, Michele Cooper. NYS DASNY, the funding agency, needed a resolution stating that the library can enter into a contract agreement for \$98,000 to install the generator. Meg Wormely made a motion to accept the resolution. Chris Atkins seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion carried (see attached motion).

Tammy showed the Board the knitting created for our year (1913) in the Tapestry Movement. It is a visual representation of the temperature in the Hudson Valley during that year. It was to be joined with the other libraries' representations to illustrate climate change over time.

Tammy also reported that pavilion construction had begun. She reported that more fill was needed and brought in at a cost of \$6,600. Barbara Barrantes made a motion to approve the bill for \$6,600 for fill needed for site preparation. Chris Atkins seconded the motion; all were in favor, motion carried.

Friend's Report

Joyce Crow gave the Friends report. She reported that in July-August, the Bookshop had made \$1,347. They had 224 patrons and thirty-four book donations.

There was a total of forty-six volunteer hours logged and there were fifty members registered with the Friends. There is \$12,306 dollars in the bank.

The Friends decided to wait to hold the Thank You event until the first weekend after Labor Day, which was to be September 6th, 2025.

December 12th and 13th, 2025 will be the annual cookies and books fundraiser.

At the last Friends meeting, Steve Smith attended and spoke about the 414 and how the Friends could help with advocacy.

On October 23rd, 2025, Joyce will be attending the Tea Time to speak about the Friends group and what they do.

Joyce reported that she had met with Tufano when they came to inspect the water in the basement. It looked like the moisture was a condensation issue. The dehumidifier could not keep up with the moisture and there was mold accumulating in the boiler room.

Committee Reports

Building Administration- No report.

Development- Betsy Myers gave the report to the Board. She reported that at the August 8th development meeting, the members decided to keep Business Partners, Annual Appeal, National Library Week, and Gala as fundraisers in 2026.

Gala: She reported that they would be having a Party at the Pavilion in 2026. It will be July 11th, 2026, 6:30pm-8:30pm. She noted that it would cost a bit more because the library would need to rent more things and food truck cost more.

Human Resources- No report

Nominating- No report

Outreach- No report.

Finance- No report.

414 Committee- Steve Smith reported that he had met with the Friends to go over advocacy and needs. He also reported that he was waiting to find out where the proposition was going to be on the back of the ballot. Once that is received the mailers could be created and sent out.

He reported that Board members can advocate, but employees cannot.

Pavilion Committee- The ground-breaking was August 8th and Charlotte's great nephew was there.

Advocacy Ambassador- Joan Wallstein was appointed the RJCL ambassador. She will be reporting news from the MHLS back to the Board.

Joan passed around postcards to the Trustees and asked that they be sent to the elected representatives in Congress, advocating for library funding. She also shared resources to help Trustees contact their representatives.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Basement cleanout- Beth Gordon was to lead a committee to help get the basement area cleaned out. Meg Wormely, Colleen Lutz, Betsy Meyers, and Chris Atkins volunteered to assist in the cleanout.

Basement Mold- Tufano must fix the leak and condensation issue before the mold remediation takes place. Tammy had a list of items, including the basement leaks, that Tufano needed to do. Several trustees questioned if Tufano was the right company for the job.

Pat Placona suggested that a small group meet with Tufano to discuss the issues on the list and assess whether they are the correct company for the job.

Marian Dodds made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Betsy Meyers seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Colleen Lutz, Secretary

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE
ROELIFF JANSEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

RESOLVED, that the Roeliff Jansen Community Library has the full power and authority to execute and deliver the agreement with DASNY, for a grant of \$98,000 to install a generator, and to perform its obligations thereunder.

The undersigned Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Roeliff Jansen Community Library hereby certifies that the above is a true copy of a resolution passed unanimously by the Board of Trustees of the Roeliff Jansen Community Library on 19th day of August 2025.

Very truly yours

Colleen Lutz
Secretary