

**Roeliff Jansen Community Library
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2026**

Present: Eileen Ahern
Chris Atkins
Marian Dodds
Beth Gordon
Marilyn Gross
Betsy Meyers-Vice President
Ronnie McTiernan
Pat Placona-President
Steve Smith
Meg Wormley-Treasurer

Absent: Joan Wallstein
Barbara Barrantes

Also Present:
Tammy Gaskell – Director
Joyce Crow – Friends of RJCL
Kim Hausner

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Pat Placona immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the December 2025 minutes. No changes were suggested. Chris Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes. Betsy Meyers seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Meg Wormley gave the Treasurer's report for December 2025. There were no questions about the report from the Board.

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

Meg Wormley added that a presentation from the finance people of Berkshire Taconic will be offering a presentation to the Board will be upcoming.

Director's Report

Tammy Gaskell presented the director's report.

Factors impacting circulation were mentioned, such as changing reading habits, and changing formats of reading. Factors impacting program attendance were mentioned, such as there being no evening events and conflicting programs or events in the local area.

Tammy Gaskell noted programs on Zoom offered by the Columbia County Libraries Association such as Tech Labs, a gardening program, as well as sponsoring a showing of the documentary *The Librarians* on Jan. 31 at the Crandell Theatre.

Looking ahead; Tia Maggio is considering more art workshops. Xondra O'Connell is considering more programs for *kids and parents* and *music-storytime*.

Kate Shannon has been promoted to Assistant Director.

Tammy Gaskell reminded all that Advocacy Day is February 3rd and distributed postcards promoting library funding to be mailed to Governor Kathy Hochul.

Friend's Report

Joyce Crow gave the Friends report.

In review, the December income of \$2810 from Bookshop and the Soup, Books, & Bake Sale.

They have \$19,146 currently in the bank, and have sales tax to be paid.

The Friends have donated \$6,220 to the library in 2025.

Looking ahead, The Friends are giving thought to offering Gift Certificates to the Bookshop. They have the Saturday staffing covered, have a good amount of donations coming in, and are refilling the bookshelves.

Joyce Crow noted donations from Books & Cake, receiving advance copies of books and slightly damaged books as donations.

Pat Placona inquired if the Friends continue to plan on funding the purchase of furniture for the pavilion. Joyce Crow responded that the Friends are still planning on this.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds – Beth Gordon reported waiting for warmer weather for striping the driveway and the basement overhaul.

Development- Betsy Meyers reported that the Business Partners Appeal had received \$7498. This was budgeted as \$9000, but some anticipated donations are not yet received.

Party in the Pavillion, July 2026 – planning to mail “save-the-date” card in mid-February. Food trucks are set. Auction is focus of next meeting.

National Library Week – April 19 – 25 – Theme “Find Your Joy”

Fall event planning – Play in the pavilion

Human Resources – no report.

Nominating - Marian Dodds welcomes Eileen Ahern as new member of the Board.

Finance – no report

414 Committee – no report

Pavilion Committee - no report

Advocacy Ambassador – no report

Old Business

Roof – Warren Temple Smith Architects will do *Request for Proposal*
-repair of skylights and dormers (separate from the rest of the roof)
-also noted leak in kitchen area, staff work area, and back door area

New Business

none

Pat Placona made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beth Gordon seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Marian Dodds, Secretary