

**Roeliff Jansen Community Library  
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes  
April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

**Present:**

Eileen Aherne  
Chris Atkins  
Marian Dodds – Secretary  
Beth Gordon  
Marilyn Gross  
Betsy Myers – Vice President  
Ronnie McTiernan  
Pat Placona – President  
Steve Smith  
Joan Wallstein  
Meg Wormley – Treasurer

**Absent:**

Barbara Barrantes

**Also Present:**

Tammy Gaskell – Library Director  
Joyce Crow – Friends of RJCL  
Jill Leinung – Mid Hudson Library System  
Jen Post – Claverack Free Library  
Janet Schnitzer – Claverack Free Library

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Pat Placona.

**Review and Approval of Minutes**

- Marilyn Gross made a motion to approve the minutes. Steve Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report**

Meg Wormley gave the treasurer's report for March 2026.

- Joan Wallsein made a motion to approve the warrant report. Pat Placona seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Director's Report**

Tammy Gaskell presented the director's report.

- **Meeting Room Policy**  
In the weeks since the March meeting, Trustees took time to consider the terms and fees for the Meeting Room and Pavillion. There was discussion of edits to the policy and fees for the pavilion and community room.

- Steve Smith made a motion to approve the edits to the policy and fees for the community room and pavilion. Beth Gordon seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **Annual Report**  
Tammy Gaskell shared the detailed annual report to the state and the statistics to be included in the annual report to the community.
  - Betsy Myers made a motion to approve the annual reports. Marilyn Gross seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **Children's Librarian**  
Two candidates were interviewed. One candidate is being considered for a summer position or longer term.

### **Friend's Report**

Joyce Crow presented the Friends report

- The Friends currently have \$21,371
- Friends donated the funds to pay for the furniture for the pavilion. Thanks and applause were expressed in gratitude to the Friends for this much appreciated donation!
- Membership drive is going well
- Planning a big 2-day book sale for next spring. Sally Laing heads the project. In preparation for this sale, Friends will be accepting all donations, not being as limiting of what books are accepted.
- New signs have been ordered.

### **Committee Reports**

***Nominating*** – Marian Dodds gave the Nominating Committee report

- Lynne Perrella will be interviewed for a position on the Board on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Barbara Barrantes submitted a letter of resignation from the Board.  
Pat Placona read Barbara's letter aloud.

*Dear Pat,*

*Please accept my resignation from the board of the Roeliff Jansen Community Library, effective immediately.*

*During my 6 years as a trustee I had the privilege to work with you and my colleagues on the board on many projects and issues. For this I am very grateful.*

*Under your leadership I am confident that the library will continue to provide the best services to the community.*

*Sincerely,*

*Barbara Barrantes*

Numerous comments followed to express how Barbara's guidance and advisement have been integral to the process of navigating many matters over the years. Paired with appreciation for Barbara's professional skills, gratitude for her

supportive friendship and light-hearted personality were also shared. Barbara is thanked and applauded!

***Development*** – Betsy Myers gave the Development Committee report.

- Party at the Pavillion
  - Host ticket sales begin 2<sup>nd</sup> week in May
  - wine grab
    - local businesses donating cases of wine
    - hoping for 100 bottles
- National Library Week April 19- 25
  - \$11,334 so far

***414 Committee*** – Steve Smith gave the 414 Committee report

- Ancram 414 Petitions are formatted
  - Minimum of 25 signatures of Ancram residents are needed (want 35)
  - Deadline – July 24<sup>th</sup> (90 days prior to early voting)

***Buildings and Grounds*** – Beth Gordon gave the Buildings and Grounds Committee report.

- Striping to be completed April 27<sup>th</sup> (to be completed by Smiths of Rensselaer)

***Human Relations Committee*** – Steve Smith gave the HR Committee report

- Considering staff retirement benefit - to broaden appeal of employment by the library

### **Old Business**

- Pavillion – ribbon cutting Saturday, May 9, 2:00 pm

### **New Business**

none

Steve Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beth Gordon seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

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Respectfully Submitted  
Marian Dodds, Secretary