

**Roeliff Jansen Community Library
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
May 19th, 2026**

Present:

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

Absent:

Eileen Ahern

Also Present:

Tammy Gaskell – Library Director

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

Review and Approval of Minutes

- Chris Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes. Beth Gordon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

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

- Meg noted memorial donations received in memory of
 - Laurie Shnayerson
 - Janet and John Piwowarski
- Joan Wallstein made a motion to approve the warrant report. Steve Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Director's Report

Tammy Gaskell presented the director's report and gave clarification on the MHLS reports of *Overdrive* spending and circulation

- **Meeting Room Policy**
 - The amended Meeting Room Policy was reviewed
 - The Certificate of Occupancy for the pavilion has been received
 - 294 for standing room only
 - 98 with tables and chairs
 - Decision was made to not allow alcohol for non-library events
 - Availability of sufficient parking will be a consideration when reviewing applications
 - Steve Smith made a motion to approve the edits regarding pavilion use. Chris Atkins seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- **Pavilion**
 - Various finishing tasks are to be completed
 - Discussion of seeking quotes on blinds for left end
 - Pat Placona made a motion to pursue quotes for blinds for the pavilion. Beth Gordon seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **Security**
 - 2 cameras for the pavilion and ongoing alarm issues were discussed.
 - Chris Atkins made a motion to have 2 security cameras installed for the pavilion and to have the alarm issue remedied. Betsy Myers seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **Staff**
 - Children's/youth services associate Michael Nouri begins Saturdays May 23 & 30 and then regular hours beginning June 20.
 - Kate Shannon has accepted the position of Assistant Director at the Hudson Area Library. Kate's last day will be May 30.

Friend's Report

Ronnie McTiernan presented the Friends report, sharing that the organization is doing well.

Committee Reports

Nominating – Marian Dodds gave the Nominating Committee report

- Interview with Lynne Parrella for the Board took place on May 23. Lynne accepted the nomination.
 - Steve Smith made a motion to have Lynne Parella as a member of the Board. Marylin Gross seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Development – Betsy Myers gave the Development Committee report.

- National Library Week
 - Donations, relative to recent years, were within 700 to 1000.
 - 25 donations in memory of Laurie Shnayerson and Janet & John Piwowarski
- Party at the Pavilion
 - Auction – over 40 silent auction items and “bundle” items, plus 8 for live auction
 - Copake Wine Works – tasting
 - Wine Grab – bring bottles of wine to the library
 - Promotional table at Farmer's Market – June 13
 - Available volunteer time slots – 9am to 11am & 11am to 1pm
 - Tent, Tables & Chairs to arrive Thursday July 8 and *set up* Friday and Saturday
 - Tickets – purchase on-line or at the library (9 Host Tickets already purchased!)

Human Relations Committee – Steve Smith gave the HR Committee report

- Simple IRA – Individual Retirement Account for employees was discussed
 - Beth Gordon made a motion to approve the offer of a simple IRA after 6 months of employment. Joan Wallstein seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- Ancram 414 – discussed timeliness of doing the 414 now, and factors of last year’s results.
 - Ronnie McTiernan and Pat Placona offered to contact selected Ancram residents to gather signatures on the petitions
 - Want petitions back to Steve by June 16 (next Board meeting)
 - Certification deadline – July 24th (90 days prior to early voting, October 24)

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

- Pavilion gutters to be installed Tuesday
- Pavilion landscaping next week (drainage, grading, seeding)
- Linda Leavitt, consultant for landscape advises pruning overgrown bushes and overhanging branches of trees in the front of the library. For back, suggestion of large pot and trellis to hide solar conduit.

Old Business

- Roof – drain in entryway leaking. Other leaks seem to be fixed.
- Pavilion Ribbon Cutting will be in Thursday’s paper.

New Business

none

Steve Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris Atkins seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Marian Dodds, Secretary