Roeliff Jansen Community Library
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
October 20th, 2026

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

Absent:
Chris Atkins

Also Present:
Tamara Gaskell – Director
Joyce Craw – Friends

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

Review and Approval of Minutes

- Beth Gordon made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Marilyn Gross seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Meg Wormley gave the Treasurer's Report for September 2026.

- Bookkeeper, Kelly Grimme, is resigning. The position was posted and the interview process is underway. Leah Harde, who held the positon previously, is helping until a new bookkeeper starts.

- Marilyn Gross made a motion to approve the September 2026 Warrant Report. Lynne Perrella seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- 2027 Budget
  - Budget numbers from committees are due November 4th.
    - Initial budget to be provided at November Board of Trustees meeting.
    - Budget review meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 8th at 5:00, then voted upon for approved at the December Board meeting.

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Director's Report

Tammy Gaskell gave the Director's Report

- Revised Meeting Space Policies, application, and indemnification form.
  - Following discussion, Ronnie McTiernan made a motion to approve the revised *Meeting Space Policy and Rules of Use*, the application form, and indemnification form. Steve Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- Children's and Youth Service Associate - position has been posted and many applications have been received.

- Microfilms of old local newspapers - Tammy contacted the State Archives regarding these. The State Archives are interested in having them, so they will be donated.

- Disaster Recovery Grant – Library of Local (collaborative between Understory and the Mid-Hudson Library System) has granted $2000 for disaster recovery items to be available for loan at the library. The money is to be spent by November 1st.
  - Following discussion, the Board thought it would be best to delegate the selection of Disaster Recovery Grant purchases to the library staff.

- MHLS panel discussion on Director/Board Relationships
  - Monday, Oct. 26th 5:00 -6:30
    Pat Placona will be a panelist

Friends Report

Joyce Craw gave the Friends report.

- September income about $1200

- Free books for children in honor of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library initiative
  - Over four weeks, about 36 participants, the majority were 6th to 12th grade students

- Sign – purchasing from Pro Printers
  - Tammy Gaskell has approved where the sign will be installed.
  - Jimmy Germain will put up the sign and is donating the posts.

- Driveway – Joyce inquired about pavement marking that would show the driveway toward the Bookshop.

- $19,000 - plan on using to fund online resources such as Hoopla and Kanopy, as well as the purchase of a doll house for the Bookshop.

- Membership – have 35 members and received $5000 in donations through membership

Committee Reports

Nominating – Marian Dodds – none

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Development – Betsy Myers gave the Development Committee report

- Party/Gala – June 12, 2027, 6pm to 8:30pm – planning continues

- Business Partners – continuing to develop letters, planned to be single double-sided page

Human Resources – Steve Smith stated that HR had nothing to report.

- Ancram 414
  - Live conversations have been positive
  - Outcome is dependent on voter turnout
  - New voter registrations will be completed by Thursday
  - Meg Wormley reports that an email is going out tomorrow
  - mailer to Ancram residents received last week

Building and Grounds – Beth Gordon gave the Buildings and Grounds report

- Generator Fence – to be installed soon

- Parking Lot – suggestions discussed; -one way arrow
  -line leading to the Bookshop
  -trim big red bush
  -flexible sticks marking pavement edge on Route 22 side

New Business

- none

Old Business

- Roof
  - Pat Placona opens discussion of paying Jay Elsoffer's bill of $9,800 for work done and discontinue his services.
    - Joan Wallstein made a motion to pay Jay Elsoffer's final bill of $9800. Eileen Aherne seconded the motion. All were in favor.

  - Per Tammy Gaskell a patron, who had similar roof complication, recommended US Metal Roofing. Pat Placona met with a US Metal representative. Removing and replacing north end and the small roof on the south side was recommended.
    - If replacement, is eligible as construction funding from state
    - US Metal estimate $125,000 based on surface observations
    - Trustees agree to request detailed estimate & complete proposal from US Metal

Beth Gordon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lynne Perrella seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

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Respectfully Submitted
Marian Dodds, Secretary

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