

AVON FREE LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING September 29, 2025 | 6:30pm

Present: Grace Frenzel, Dave Stafford, Jodi DeCarlo, Helen Zamboni, Josh Tonra, Ryan Spall, Saragrace Friday, Kevin Patrick, Cheryl MacPherson

Absent: Becky Stewart, Collin Hayes

Guests: None.

Call to Order at 6:20 pm

Public Comment:

Ryan shared from Kathy Barsz (member of the Friends Group) suggesting water permeable materials in the backyard project.

Minutes of August

Approval of the corrected minutes of August was moved by Ryan, seconded by Kevin, and passed unanimously.

Friends' Report:

Conversations have been had regarding the possibility of a second book sale, which is logically unlikely. Planning for Holiday Spectacular. Also discussed for Spring conducting a basket raffle or similar fundraiser given the success of the prior basket raffle.

Director's Report:

Grace presented the monthly director's report. Items of note included:

- Grace went to project management training. Meeting with Chamber went well and materials were handed out.
- Upcoming Rotary and Lions meetings. Tabling at Special Education and Disability Fair.
- Future presentation of "The Librarians" at Avon Park Theater. Trying to get Evan Dawson to moderate.
- Roof is done. Grant closed out. Construction aid report still needs to be closed out, but Grace is on it. Total of \$114,000 through ERC.
- Rumor going around town that the library is double-dipping and village residents will be billed again with passage of referendum. Saying that it is a tax increase, which it is not. Requires further educating the public on the referendum. Friends group will need to organize campaign (signs, leaflets, etc.) in support of the referendum. Signs have been ordered. Friends are paying for all campaign materials.

- Security system upgrade happening September 30.
- OWWL Grant of \$1,000 received for a pilot homebound delivery program. \$3,000 increase requested from County for Pass-thru Grant

Committee Reports:

- **Facilities** (Helen): Need to update LaBella on backyard project to keep it moving. Plan for the backyard is to meet with LaBella to allow for room for the elevator plan.
- **Finance** (Dave): Succession plan is in the work between Kevin and Dave. Conversion to QuickBooks to be done by Dave in the next few months. Finance committee will be meeting in November for budget, and meeting will be convened before then to start budget planning project.
- **Fundraising** (Grace): Plan is to pursue one large grant for the backyard project once we know what the cost will look like after meeting with LaBella.
- **Policy** (Josh): Moved to approve Affirmation that the Library meets with NYS Minimum Standards for Public and Association Libraries. Seconded by Cheryl. Unanimously approved.

Old Business:

There is a minimum of one and probably two Board openings. While we have used ads in the past, Helen asked Board Members to think about possible Board members with an eye towards finance and public relations.

With regard to the Chapter 414 Project, we are less than a month away. Three ads to come in the Pennysaver. Flyers have been hung at T's. Reception has been largely positive. Voter turnout will be the most important thing. Grace will be speaking at the Avon Nutrition program site and getting the word out on social media. Cheryl suggested contacts with the local churches. Suggestions include reaching out to Interfaith Council and PTA. Library has been invited to attend Brick Building event at school on 10/1/25. Cheryl will attend, Grace and Ryan could also go. Call, text, post to social media reminding people to vote. Post ballot language on the website, handouts, and social media. Early voting starts on 10/25/25.

Adjournment: 7:02 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 27, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,
Joshua Tonra
Secretary