

AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY
Regular Monthly Board Meeting Friday, October 24, 2025
APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Marc Donnenfeld (President), Calandra Sheen (Vice-President), Natalie Abatemarco (Treasurer), Barbara Hill (Secretary), Dan Mongan, David Nugent, Marie Zazzi and Arielle Hessler (Director).

The meeting took place in the Library's Community Room. Marc called the meeting to order at 9:06 am.

- I. The Board unanimously approved the Agenda for the meeting, with the modification that the next meeting is November 14, 2025.
- II. The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the September 26, 2025 regular meeting.
- III. Natalie identified that the finances of the Library are on track for this year. Natalie and Arielle will work to revise the financial reports presented monthly to be for the prior month, rather than delaying the reports to provide the mid-month data.
- IV. In his President's report, Marc complimented the successful Hamptons International Film Festival, and particularly the film The Librarians. He also complimented the Halloween decorations now up at the Library.
- V. Arielle presented the highlights of the Director's Report, reminding the Trustees that she and the Head of Adult and Teen Services will be attending the NYLA conference the first week of November. In addition Arielle addressed the damage, and fix, of the front lamppost in recent storm, that Charlie & Sons has winterized the Library garden, the success of the Library's first vaccination clinic and thanked Balsam Farms for their generous pumpkin donation to the Library programs. Further, Arielle identified that Baker & Taylor, the primary vendor for many libraries, including Amagansett, is going out of business and walked the Board through the current options, and plans going forward, to keep new books available for our patrons in a timely manner.
- VI. There was no Secretary's report.
- VII. Trustee Reports:
 - A. Dan reported on the Town lighting project for Amagansett Main Street. The Board unanimously approved a motion that Dan should forward for circulation the input that the Amagansett Historical Society is sending to the Town Board on this topic, and subject to any library trustee's veto, that the Trustees should provide a comment letter supporting the project for improved lighting and encouraging the Town Board to accept the Amagansett Historical Society's input on the aesthetics of the new light posts.
 - B. Calandra suggested that perhaps the Library could hold a specific game night - such as card games including Uno. The Trustees concurred that we see the library as a place for community gathering.
- VIII. Committee Reports:
 - A. The Fundraising Committee met and selected Dan as its chair. The Fundraising Committee intends to provide its mission statement to the Board next month and will be doing some fact finding and outreach to determine what other East End

libraries are doing. The committee noted that fundraising should be linked to specific needs and purposes which will be determined in consultation with the Board and other committees.

IX. Old Business:

- A. The Board discussed the Board Meeting dates for 2026 and whether it would be preferable to switch to the third Friday of each month. The Trustees will be checking their calendars and the Board will vote on the meeting dates next month.
- B. Arielle will circulate to the Board the draft of the Annual Appeal letter and requests comments by next Tuesday so that the letter can be printed and disseminated before Thanksgiving.
- C. Arielle is collecting quotes for the Roof and HVAC projects and anticipates having them for the November Board Meeting.

X. New Business

- A. The Board discussed the Suffolk Cooperative Library System proposed draft budget, and will vote on the budget when the final budget is received, most likely at the November Board Meeting.
- B. At Dan's request, the Board put off its vote on the Long Range Plan (2026-2030) until next month. The Trustees have the second draft, and Arielle has requested that any comments be submitted to her before the next meeting so that the Board can vote in November. Barbara will miss the November Board Meeting but she has indicated her support for the Long Range Plan.

XI. The Board unanimously voted to approve the payment of Regular Bills.

XII. The Personnel Report contained no changes from the prior month.

XIII. There was no correspondence to discuss.

XIV. No one from the public attended.

XV. There was no Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20am.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, November 14, 2025, at 9:00am.