AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY
Regular Monthly Meeting
Draft of Minutes of July 17, 2026

Present: Barbara Hill (President), Calandra Sheen (Vice President), Natalie Abatemarco (Treasurer), Shari Thompson (Secretary), Dan Mongan, David Nugent, Marie Zazzi, Arielle Hessler (Director). Also present: Marc Donnenfeld, Jonathan Rose. The meeting took place in the library's Community Room. Barbara called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., and our agenda was as follows:

I. Approval of Agenda. The agenda for this meeting was approved unanimously.

II. Zoom Meeting with H2M Architects & Engineers on HVAC Project. H2M representatives discussed preliminary options to replace the library's current HVAC system. In August, options will be sent to the Board. The Building & Grounds Committee will review the proposals and make recommendations to the Board.

III. The minutes of the June 12, 2026 regular board meeting were approved unanimously.

IV. Financial Report. Reviewing our budget for the first half of this year, Natalie noted the first payment was made to H2M in the HVAC project, but that overall, "nothing changed in a new way."

V. President's Report. Barbara encouraged all of us to attend the library's Open Evening tonight and Amagansett Day tomorrow.

VI. Director's Report. Arielle reported that the library has a new refrigerator that can store food and ice for library events (such as tonight's Open Evening), in addition to being used by library staff. She also thanked the library's Local History Coordinator, Julianna Vargas, for organizing local tours– most recently, a guided off-site tour of the Mabel & Victor D'Amico Studio and the Art Barge– that have been well received by patrons. Arielle reported also on staff development, new summer student page hire, and on summer programs and priorities.

VII. Trustee Reports. There were no trustee reports.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Governance Committee: Bylaws report. Barbara reported that the Governance Committee and the Director met last week to finalize a draft revision of the library's bylaws and will send it to the library's attorneys for review.

B. Dan Mongan motioned to form an ad-hoc Long-Term Vision Committee, to determine how the need for increased space may impact the current HVAC project. The motion was unanimously approved, and Barbara appointed volunteers Dan, Natalie, and Marie to serve on the committee.

IX. Old Business

A. Tonight: Library Open Evening, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Arielle noted that refreshments will be on the second floor and that attendees will be able to sign up to get library cards and to be added to the library's mailing list. The honorees this year are Balsam Farm and M&T Bank.

X. New Business

A. Motion to approve the 2027 board meeting and holiday dates. With the addition of a board meeting on Friday, December 17th, at 9:00 a.m., the dates were approved unanimously.

B. The motion to approve the annual agreement for legal services with Volz & Vogliotta, PLLC was approved unanimously.

C. The motion to mail a summer annual appeal letter was approved unanimously. The letter, written by Arielle, will be available at tonight's Open Evening.

D. Language programs. The library's language programs were discussed.

E. Amagansett Day. With the co-sponsorship of the Amagansett Historical Association (AHA) and the Amagansett Village Improvement Society (AVIS), Dan has organized this community celebration, which will take place tomorrow from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and will feature tours of nine historic houses/buildings on Main Street, including the library.

XI. The Personnel Report was approved unanimously.

XII. There was no correspondence.

XIII. Period for Public Expression: Arielle and the board thanked Marc and Jonathan for their input during the Zoom meeting with H2M (see item II, above).

XIV. There was no Executive Session.

XV. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Shari Thompson
Secretary

The next board meeting will be on Friday, August 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.