

Highlights

- Membership - Membership currently includes over 4,200 active adult resident/property owners.
- Architectural Programming – Buildings and Grounds met with the architect to review initial exterior and interior concepts.
- Capital Planning 2024 – Moving forward with back office and circulation desk updates.

Areas of Focus

- Events & Programs – The number of events in September was very similar to 2023 figures. Overall attendance down vs. last year, likely due to a smaller (but still substantial) crowd at the last Thursday concert.
- Library Board – Prepared proposed amendments to Trustee Bylaws, for review in October.
- Capital & Facilities 2024
 - Architectural Programming – Received initial interior and exterior concepts. Buildings & Grounds Committee (B&G) to review and prepare recommendations for next steps.
 - Back Office renovation – Awaiting final plans for back-office renovation, to be shared with B&G.
 - Circulation Desk – Awaiting renderings for circulation desk plans, to be shared with staff and B&G.
 - Wayfinding – Reworking plan for interior signage due to the number of signs needed. Updated plans anticipated for October.
- Capital Planning 2025 – Anticipated for review with Trustee committees in late October.
- Return of Surplus – Received notice that the application was approved. Awaiting official letter.
- 2025 Budget – Preparing initial budgets for 2025.
- Shared Services 2025 – Completed internal review of existing agreement, anticipated for distribution to Borough partners for review in October.
- NJ Sick Leave – An issue with this benefit for part time employees was resolved in September and reported to the Finance Committee.
- Summer 2025 – Completing planning related to event and capital needs for summer 2025 (program vendors, surveying, capital improvements for venues, Spring into Summer).
- Training – Fire extinguisher training to be provided by the Borough of Avalon in October. In addition, administrative staff participated in a series of JIF workshops in September.

Strategic Goals

Strengthening Community Connection (Library & History Center use and facilities, Collections, and Digital Resources)

- Library & History Center Use – Statistical reporting shows that use in September was generally on par with the previous year, with circulation and library visit slightly up over 2023. Onsite technology use and event attendance are slightly down from the previous year. YTD figures remain strong overall.
- New Resource! Online Museum Pass Program – Members can now borrow museum passes from home, making this resource much easier to use.

Cultivating Culture in the Community (Marketing, Community & Staff Engagement, and Events)

- Outreach & Engagement
 - Avalon Book Club – providing venues and support for two recent book club meetings.
 - Run for the Fallen
 - Diller Home collections support
 - Upcoming – Seafood Fest, Trunk or Treat, and Trick or Treating
- Social Media – HC Facebook and Instagram engagement up in September vs. August 2024. Library engagement on those platforms was down vs. August. Popular posts included staff features, event promotion, and historic house content.
- New Survey! 2025 Event Planning – Seeking feedback from the community to guide event planning and scheduling for summer 2025.

AVALON LIBRARY & HISTORY CENTER REPORT – September 2024

History Center Collections Committee – October 1, 2024

1. Elizabeth & Margaret Lukens – 09/07/4
 - 3 bulb chandelier
 - 11 wooden & rattan chairs. Some from J.B. Van Sciver Co. of Camden – retain/refinish some
 - Came from Lukens family home at 14 E. 17th St., formerly at 138 6th St. Family feels they are from 1920.

2. Susan Heath – 09/20/2024
 - ABP Yearbooks 1971, '72 & '74
 - Blue ABP windbreaker
 - White ABP shorts
 - White ABP polo shirt
 - 1971 color photo of donor's late husband Henry Alban Hurst III (Albie). Items all belonged to him

3. Jan Van Dyke – 09/18/2024
 - Gallagher's Liquor Store coasters
 - 2013 ABP invitation to apply for lifeguard post, signed by Murray Wolf