

Highlights

- Architectural Programming – Buildings and Grounds Committee met to discuss next steps for potential building projects.
- Capital Planning 2024 – Ready to proceed with the back office project.
- Capital Planning 2025-2027 – Finalized updated projects for 2025 & 2026, drafted new for 2027.
- Benefits – Health benefits for FT employees are moving to a new provider.

Areas of Focus

- Capital & Facilities 2024
 - Architectural Programming – Buildings & Grounds met to review possible next steps following receipt of a report from the architects. Decision was made to follow up with the school to further clarify options supported by the BOE.
 - Back Office renovation – Final plans distributed to Buildings & Grounds and Finance Committees. Pending approval at November meeting.
 - Circulation Desk – Received initial renderings, project anticipated to move to early 2025. Updated plans allow for the addition of a new service point.
- Capital Planning 2025 – Met with B&G and Finance Committees for plan review, pending Board approval in November. 2025 projects include:
 - Updated Circulation Desk
 - AV/Projection at Surfside Park
 - Funds for building projects
 - New Museum Software
- 2025 Budget – Draft 2025 budget in process, meeting with Finance Committee in November to review. Anticipated for December.
- Benefits – Borough of Avalon is leaving the state health benefits plan at the end of 2024. Staff are being moved to a plan administered by Amerihealth.
- Shared Services 2025 – Received feedback from community partners for the updated plan, preparing a draft for review by the Board, Borough, and School.
- Library Board – Anticipate onboarding a new Trustee in December.
- Summer 2025 – Planning for summer 2025 continues. Special events schedule anticipated by late winter.
- October Training –
 - Fire Extinguisher – all staff
 - JIF Special Events – KB
 - Assistance Animals in Public Places – EB
 - Assorted MSI NOW JIF trainings

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 October was generally on par with the previous year, with circulation and library visit up over 2024. Onsite technology use and event attendance are slightly up from the previous year. YTD figures remain strong overall.
- Selection of Current HC Projects
 - Continuing work on the Dee Phillips Collection from the most recent batch of donations from the patron.
 - Relabeling effort underway for various exhibits.
 - Various projects related Avalon Beach Patrol and South Jersey Lifeguard Championships.
 - Garden Club digitization effort.

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

- Marketing – Completed content related to December/January marketing, including a community mailer, flyers, and various digital and email pieces.
- Community Wayfinding – The library/museum were invited to participate in a committee working on a community wayfinding effort to increase visibility of neighborhoods and facilities throughout town.
- October Outreach & Engagement
 - Seafood Fest, Trunk or Treat, and Trick or Treating
 - Upcoming in November – Festive Friday
- Social Media – Library social media engagement was up in October. Popular posts included the puzzle swap and a collaboration with the local post office. Popular HC content featured historic homes of Avalon.
- Current Staff Strategic Committee Initiatives
 - Little Free Libraries
 - Wayfinding
 - Increasing Engagement with Avalon & Stone Harbor Schools
 - Event Evaluation
 - Resource Promotion
 - Local Business Engagement