

AVALON LIBRARY & HISTORY CENTER REPORT

JANUARY 2026



Highlights

- Building Project – Met with stakeholders to review funding options for potential facility projects.
- 2026 Capital - Business Center update underway.
- Personnel – New employee onboarding at both the Library & History Center.

Areas of Focus

- Building Project – Architect presentation anticipated for February 2026 meeting. Reviewed concept studies. Worked with stakeholders to firm up plans for funding any potential project and reviewed possible options with the Borough.
- Marketing – Received proposal for 2026 marketing services. For trustee review, February 2026.
- Business Center Update – Replacing public computers and installing a more user-friendly option for public scan, fax, and copying.
- Personnel – Library and museum staff coordinated onboarding for new PT employees at both facilities.

Strategic Goals

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

- Resource Promotion 2026 – First resource for special promotion in 2026 is NYT Games. It will receive an added marketing push through April 2026.
- Circulation Desk – Circulation desk project is complete, including a new interior, through the wall book drop, courtesy DPW.
- Museum Repairs – Winter weather resulted in a damaged pipe in the crawl space at the history center, requiring repairs addressed by DPW. The facility was closed for a week.

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

- Leahy Sign initiative – AHS and the Borough invited the organization to participate in an initiative throughout 2026 to celebrate Jim Leahy, who is known for many local signs throughout the region, in particular, the Welcome to Avalon signs on Avalon Blvd. As the signs rotate throughout 2026, a collectible postcard will be available at the History Center.
- Summer 2026 – Programming and marketing planning for summer is ongoing. Including:
 - Special events coordination
 - Thursdays at Surfside lineup announced
 - Working with NJ symphonies for potential performances
 - Coordinating author visits
 - 3rd Annual Spring into Summer coordination
 - Publication queue for brochures and signage
 - Giveaways for summer reading and outreach
- Administration
 - Remote Work policy – An update to the Covid Remote Work policy has been prepared for trustee review, for as needed scenarios where remote work is necessary.
 - Employee Fingerprinting – In accordance with Borough ordinance, employees who are required to complete fingerprinting on a two-year cycle are completing this during Q1 2026.
 - JIF Training – Employees are completing Q1 training requirements – Office Safety Refresher and Bloodborne Pathogens Refresher. Supervisors are completing Implicit Bias in the Workplace and other required training.
 - Employee Performance Appraisals – Completed, January 2026.