Avila Beach Community Foundation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2026 – 5:00 PM
Avila Beach Community Center

Board Members Present:
Barbara Nicholson, Ellen Pitrowski, Tim Luken, Percy Jones, Joe Caradonna, Rick Cohen, Lucinda Borchard, Bev Aho, Patrick Corrigan

Board Members Absent:
Debra Pritchard

Staff Present:
Rick Rowe, Marina Searcy

Guest:
Lisa Rizzo, ABCF Board Prospect

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1) Call to Order
President Barbara Nicholson called the meeting to order at 4:59 PM.

2) Roll Call
Roll call was conducted by Marina Searcy.

3) Introductions
Lisa Rizzo introduced herself as a prospective ABCF Board Member.

4) Consent Items
Motion to approve the November 6, 2025 board meeting minutes and the November and December 2025 financial dashboards was made by Perry Jones and seconded by Ellen Pitrowski. Action: Motion passed unanimously.

5) Foundation Action Items

a) Peoples Self Help Grant – Lachen Tara Community Members
Staff collaborated with Peoples Self Help representatives to develop a proposal for critical needs funding for Lachen Tara residents. Motion to approve $5,000 in funding was made by Barbara Nicholson and seconded by Ellen Pitrowski. Action: Motion passed unanimously.

b) Formation of Committee to Update ABCF By-Laws
A committee was formed consisting of: Rick Cohen, Barbara Nicholson, Ellen Pitrowski. Motion was made by Tim Luken and seconded by Perry Jones. Action: Motion passed unanimously.

c) Approval of 2026 Operational Budget
Motion to approve the 2026 Operational Budget was made by Barbara Nicholson and seconded by Ellen Pitrowski. Action: Motion passed unanimously.

d) Approval of New Board Members
The Board reviewed the applications and introductions of Lisa Rizzo and Corinne Smith as prospective ABCF Board Members. Motion to approve Lisa Rizzo and Corinne Smith as new ABCF Board Members was made by Barbara Nicholson and seconded by Tim Luken. Action: Motion passed unanimously.

6) Information Items

a) 2026 ABCF Board Roster (Included in the board packet)
2026 Officers:
- President: Barbara Nicholson
- Vice President: Ellen Pitrowski
- Secretary: Tim Luken
- Treasurer: Patrick Corrigan

b) 2026 Board Meeting Schedule (Included in the board packet)
The Board requested that all grant applications be provided at least one week prior to the October Board Meeting to allow sufficient time for review.

7) Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 PM. Next Board Meeting: Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 4:00 PM at ABCSD.

Submitted by:
Marina Searcy
Project Specialist
Avila Beach Community Foundation