

Hazard Library Association Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, November 13, 2023

The meeting was held at Opendore.

PRESENT: Nancy Hart, Patricia Covert (via Zoom), Pat Berry, Bess Simkin (via Zoom), Betsy Donald, Connie Rejman, Sonjia Turner, and Lisa Semenza.

ABSENT:

President Nancy Hart called the meeting to order at 6: 39 P.M.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made by Pat and seconded by Connie to accept the minutes. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- It was a straightforward month.
- The mutual fund experienced a ~\$2,000 loss.
- A motion was made by Betsy and seconded by Pat to approve the treasurer's report. Carried.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

October 13 – FLLS Annual Meeting to be held at Hilton Garden Inn in Auburn. It was the first in-person meeting since 2019. Thank you to Nancy, Sonjia, and Connie for attending. Lisa was unable to attend due to illness. *The speaker can count as Trustee education. Don't forget you need to do 2 hours before 12/31.*

October 14 – We hosted eclipse related activities and decorated eclipse cupcakes. 25 people participated.

October 17 – Story Hour trip to the firehouse for Fire Prevention Month. We are now up to 5 families participating regularly. They are all pretty young this year.

October 17 – First meeting to establish Joint Operating Committee between Hazard and HSSM. The committee will meet quarterly on the 4th Wed of the month.

October 24 – First Literacy Committee meeting held at EH with new principal and in-person. We discussed "I Love to Read Month" for February, author visit, and reinstating a revised form of "Got Book".

October 24 – Sandy and I visited the UPK classes for our monthly Story Time visit with a spooky theme.

October 26 – The *Great Give Back* ended. This year we and the Aurora Library collected canned pie filling and boxes pudding mixes for the King Ferry Food Pantry. There were a total of 11 cans of pumpkin, 22 cans of other fruit filling, and 42 boxes of pudding donated.

October 30 – Nancy, Patricia, and Lisa met with Guy on Zoom RE next steps in the building project.

- Cole (our lawyer) is working to file the Ground Lease Agreement with the county and obtaining the Title Abstract.

- We are working with Julia (our architect) for the next phase of the construction project which will include the construction documents. She is planning to come meet with Patrick Doyle (the Scipio Code Enforcement Officer) and Nancy on 11/14 RE Opendore's zoning designation. Guy has also been invited to attend.

- Nancy has contacted representatives from Emerson, Metcalf, and Allyn foundations. A visit to the library and Opendore is planned for 12/4.

October 31 – Trick or Treat all day at the library. 23 people, young and old, stopped by with costumes.

November 1 – Southern Cayuga Book Club met at Opendore to discuss "This is How it Always is" by Laurie Frankel. 14 members were in attendance.

November 5 –Book Lover's Ball Book Club was rescheduled from October 8. This featured a visit from author Tom Wilber to discuss his book "Vanishing Point: The Search for a B-25 Bomber Crew Lost on the WWII Home Front". Southern Cayuga Book Club had planned to have the 10/8 presentation take the place of the October meeting so we did not meet that month.

November 9 – Monthly Director's meeting. I sent out the minutes to review.

- I have asked for the full \$2000 from the system towards collection development.

- We need to decide how much to give to FLLS toward e-content in 2024. We have given \$1000 the past few years which is in line with the recommended \$1/Overdrive circulation for the past year.

- I have new Trustee Handbooks for everyone. Please return them when you go off the board.

- FLLS Grant Writing for Libraries webinar (Zoom) will be held on Wednesday, December 6 from 11:00am-12:15pm. Register: <https://www.flls.org/calendar-2/>. I may have a conflict with

another meeting at this same time that day. Is anyone interested in attending to get the info related to 2024 construction grant? This can also count toward trustee education.

- We asked Assemblyman Gallahan for Bullet Aid and he did visit us in early July. This funding has not yet been released so we don't know if we are getting any.
- The final 10% of LSSA funding should be coming soon.
- FLLS construction grants have not yet been reviewed by the state. We will be contacted if any other information is needed

November 11 – We remained open on Veteran's Day. There was a craft planned and books/weekly readers available but limited participation.

Items to Discuss:

TAX CAP OVERRIDE: RESOLUTION Whereas, the adoption of the 2024 budget for the Hazard Library Association may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3--c adopted in 2011; and Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3--c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members; now therefore be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the/ Hazard Library Association voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2024 by at least sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law.

Dated: November 13, 2023, Nancy presented the resolution.

Vote: Unanimous, 7 in favor; 0 opposed, 0 absentions

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Doug's Fish Fry:** We made \$501.37 for July 2023.
- **Silent Auction:** Items listed on Facebook Marketplace remain unsold.

Opendore Build Update:

- Nancy is meeting with Julia, our architect and Patrick Doyle, Scipio Code Enforcement Officer to discuss zoning designation on November 14.
- Patricia talked with Larry Liberatore. He agreed to take on the consultant role.

Capital Campaign:

- We edited the Annual Appeal Letter.
- Nancy is meeting with Dan Fessenden, executive director of the Emerson Foundation on December 4.

Training Requirements:

- Trustees must complete two hours of training annually, in addition to sexual harassment training. Sexual harassment training can be found on FLLS website: <https://www.flls.org/hr/>

Finding New Board Members:

- Kathy Guernsey and Linda McGonagle have expressed an interest in being on the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Timeline of Responsibilities was updated.
- Annual review of Library Director by the board and annual review of staff by library director will be done in December.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Meeting: Monday, December 11 at 6:30 at Opendore.

Adjourned at 8:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sonjia Turner