

Hazard Library Association Board of Trustees Meeting

Opendore, Sherwood, NY

Monday, May 12, 2025

Board members present: President Nancy Hart, Connie Rejman, Betsy Donald, Pat Berry, Sonjia Turner Kathie Garnsey, Patricia Covert, Bess Simkin (Zoom)

Excused:

Staff present: Lisa Semenza

Guests present: None

Meeting held at Opendore

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM by President Nancy Hart

Secretary –Kathie Garnsey (interim secretary)

- The minutes of April 14, 2025 were reviewed and discussed
- Motion made to accept: Patricia/Connie - passed

Treasurer's Report

- Patricia still has not received word whether or not Cayhill and Knobel will perform bookkeeping and tax auditing services
- Total assets remain the same
- Discussed reaching out to local farms and foundations requesting possible donations to be used for the new library addition
- Motion to accept budget: Betsy, Connie - passed

Librarian Report

- Reviewed report, see attached
- Looking into StoryWalk signage on Opendore nature trail

Old Business

- New board members still needed
- Trustees must complete two hours of training annually, in addition to sexual harassment training. Trustee training in the form of Trustee Handbook Book Club can be found at <https://midhudson.org/trusteebookclub/>. Sexual harassment training can be found on FLLS website: <https://www.flls.org/hr/>

New Business

- Opendore Update

- Bids were received May 7
 - Bouley: \$1,290,000
 - SSO: \$603,000 (received 4 minutes after bid closing)
- A meeting with architect and Larry Liberatore is planned to discuss
- Dates of the book sale are July 26 – August 9

Next Meeting

- Monday June 9, 6:30 PM at Opendore
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:45

Respectfully submitted
Kathie Garnsey, acting Secretary

Library Director's Report (Lisa Semenza) May 12, 2025

April 12-19 – We had Spring crafts set up at the library during all open hours and all patrons were invited to participate in “egg hunt” to get a treat. Over the course of the week we had 21 people participate.

April 14 – Jeff Lampman took down the beech trees on the Opendore property in anticipation of construction beginning. There was some damage to the slate sidewalk along 34B which will need repair (likely after Phase I work completed).

April 17 – Summer Reading Meeting at FLLS. Lisa and Kathy attended. We are going to be working in conjunction with Opendore to set up a Story Walk along the Nature Trail.

April 23 – Lisa and Nancy met with Guy, Larry B, and Andy (HSSM) prior to pre-bid meeting to be held on 4/24. HSSM has ongoing concerns regarding storm sewer location, septic line location, and window glazing configuration as presented in our bid documents and with the geothermal well capacity.

April 24 – Pre-Bid meeting held at Opendore to give potential contractors the chance to look at the site and ask questions. Lisa, Nancy, and Guy were in attendance.

- We had representatives from Bouley, SSO, and Rich & Gardner present along with some other sub-contractors.
- Julia outlined bid procedures and general work scope
- One group took the rabbit hutch away with them and then Jackie Dickinson sold the doghouse for \$50.
- Rich & Gardner withdrew prior to bids being due on May 7

April 29 – Literacy Committee Meeting held – we are getting ready for author visit from Jeff Mack on 5/16 and planning Summer Reading Academy. We received sufficient funding from Outreach

Mini Grant to cover 4 days of the program and as of 5/8 also have received extra funding from Family Literacy Grant to cover a 5th day. We may have enough funding left available in Rosen 2024 to cover a 6th day.

April 29 – UPK Story Time held at Emily Howland. Both classes joined together that day. We supported their themes of the Letter O (wear orange) and their current focus on plants.

May 7 – Lisa and Nancy met with the lawyers (Cole and associate Kirsten) on Zoom. Kirsten is setting up a Google Drive to store all documents and contracts related to the building project. We met again briefly following the opening of the bids to have them touch base with Larry L regarding his role as our consultant during the building process.

May 7 – Bids opened. In attendance were Cheryl (HKK), Lisa, Nancy, and Larry L (Hazard), Guy and Kathy (HSSM). We received bids from Bouley and SSO. Further discussion needs to be had and a Zoom meeting is arranged for 5/15.

May 7 – Southern Cayuga Book Club met in Aurora to discuss “Becoming Madam Secretary” by Stephanie Dray. There were 13 people in attendance.

May 8 – Director Meeting

- Library related funding from the New York State 2025 -2026 budget:
 - **Library Operating Aid: \$106.325M** (+ \$1.725M from Executive, +\$2.473M from last year)
 - **Public Library Construction Aid: \$44 M** (+10M from Executive, = same as last year)
- There is a lot of confusion going on now
 - 21 states including NY have presented a lawsuit RE the dismantling of IMLS. That is now in the courts and an injunction has been put in place.
 - On 5/9 the Librarian of Congress was fired

Upcoming

May 16 – Author visit with Jeff Mack at EH. He will do 2 presentations and 2 art workshops with students broken into groups by grade level.

May 27 – Kathy has been working with the Girl Scouts to promote local libraries through events held there. We are hosting one to make catapults (to go along with our focus on STEM during the summer). Auburn has an animal dance party on 5/24 and Aurora has a mermaid-themed event on 6/7.

Ending the School Year

- We will have 2 more Story Times for UPK
- We will do one last book giveaway prior to summer vacation

Summer Reading - we begin events on Tuesday, July 8 and run through Thurs, Aug 14

- Tues AM – Family Story Hour on the lawn
- Tues 5:30-6:30 – Ukulele Camp
- Thurs 10:00 AM – Science on the Lawn (July 17 the Physics Bus is coming)

July 19-26 – Lisa will be out of town. Kathy and Cailin have worked out the days of coverage needed.