

Hazard Library Association Board of Trustees Meeting

Opendore, Sherwood, NY

Monday, July 14, 2025

Present: Connie Rejman, Pat Berry, Kathie Garnsey, Bess Simkin, Patricia Covert, Nancy Hart, Betsy Donald, Lisa Semenza

Excused: Sonjia Turner

President, Nancy Hart, opened the meeting at 6:41 pm.

MINUTES: Connie Rejman motioned to accept the minutes of the June 9 meeting. Seconded by Pat Berry. CARRIED.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Patricia went over income and expenses. She indicated it was a quiet month. Patricia talked with Kim Manrow. They do not do audits, however, they do work with non-profits and may be able to go over QuickBooks with us. It was also mentioned that this group might be the bookkeeper for the building fund. Their office is on Grant Avenue in Auburn.

A workshop on Non-Profit Law and building responsibilities is in the works (fee \$500) which could be shared between Hazard Library, Howland Stone Store Museum, and Instant Aid. All library board members seemed interested. This would also satisfy our two hour training requirement for trustees. Pat made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Connie seconded. CARRIED.

**Library Director's Report:**

See below for full report.

Lisa noted that 9 boxes of adult fiction books were weeded out of the library to go to the Book Sale. Some have been sold at the library already.

**Book Sale Update:**

Connie will pick up the Fish Fry sign on 7/21 from Moravia for the sale on 7/28 from 11 am to 6 pm and put the sign at the Poplar Ridge Firehouse. We will have a bake sale that day as well. For drinks, we currently have a case and a half of water & some soda. Won't be getting more—will sell until it is gone.

Connie told the group that the Emily Howland Building had been broken into again, and they got into the sorting room and dumped some boxes. Dr. Colloca was contacted and the authorities suggested that he put cameras up.

Pat brought sign-up sheets for set-up helpers as well as for the actual sale. The Cayuga County Work Force will again help move books from Emily Howland to the Fire House on Friday, 7/18. Leftover books will be taken to the Friends of the Library in Ithaca on 8/13. Hopefully the CCWF will again be able to come out and help with this move, but if not, we will need a lot of help. Stef McGonagle can help on 8/13.

**Building Project Update:**

Need to approve the new proposal. There will be a 3-foot crawl space instead of a basement. The first story will be capped. This needs to be started by the end of this summer in order for us to apply for a grant for Phase 2. There were \$19,000 in additional fees for the architect and engineering services.

Nancy submitted a letter to the Emerson Foundation requesting \$50,000. Dan Fessenden responded that it was received and will be reviewed and will let her know what is decided.

Patricia will help with grant writing.

The Scipio Town Board voted to wave the building permit fee.

**Reminders to the Trustees:**

- \*. Sexual Harassment Training needs to be completed for this year.
- \* 2 hours of training needs to be done.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Betsy Donald, Acting Secretary

## **Library Director's Report**

(Lisa Semenza)

July 14, 2025

**June 10** – Final Book Giveaways and UPK Story Time held at Emily Howland. All students were provided with Summer Reading logs and the schedule of events for both Hazard and Aurora Libraries. Kathy covered Story Hour that day.

**June 10** – Meeting with architect and contractor held to discuss the phasing options.

- One of the biggest changes to the design is that we will no longer have a basement. We will share the Opendore basement and the storage area will be worked into the lease as another Common Area. We will then also need to have our heat pumps and other equipment in the Opendore basement.
- Phase 1 will not result in a complete outer shell. We will just have the first floor walls built to second floor level, with a temporary roof covering on the second floor deck.
- We need to have active construction underway before Sept 1 to be able to submit our Phase 2 grant.

**June 10** – Joint Operating Committee meeting held in the evening to report on the afternoon meeting to Opendore.

**June 13** – Cailin represented Hazard at end of school year PTA event at Emily Howland along with Sandy to promote the libraries and Summer Reading to parents. We gave out information and had library card registrations available and Sandy provided a craft.

**June 17** – Final Story Hour for the school year held.

**June 19** – Library closed for Juneteenth.

**June 21** – Sandy and Lisa went to the Food Pantry to promote Summer Reading, Library Card sign-ups, and give out Chop Chop magazine and Take & Make Kits. We spoke to every family in attendance that day.

**June 24 and July 1** – Cailin worked with Lisa to weed Adult Fiction books. We currently have 9 boxes of books in the library that will need to be moved to the Book Sale. They are being offered for pre-sale at the library as well.

**June 27** – In the morning Nancy and Lisa met on Zoom with Julia (architect) to discuss the redesign of Phase 1. We need to check with Cole (lawyer) about getting the contract set for Bouley (contractors).

**June 27** - That afternoon Sarah and Jenny from FLLS visited the Opendore site to discuss the project. Jenny will be administering the grants at the Library System level this year and had never seen the site. Sarah was interested in our updates in phasing and plans.

**June 30** – We hosted a tie-dye session in the morning. Nancy, Lisa, and Cailin dyed staff/volunteer Summer Reading shirts and we had a couple of families join us.

**July 2** – Southern Cayuga Book Club met at Opendore to discuss “What an Owl Knows” by Jennifer Ackerman. There were 6 people in attendance.

**July 8** - Summer Reading programs began

- 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 and will be at the Firehouse)

**July 9-10** – Nancy has been working on submitting funding request to Emerson Foundation.

#### **Upcoming**

**July 18-26** – Lisa will be out of town. Kathy and Cailin have worked out the days of coverage needed.

**July 19-25** – Moving books and Book Sale Set-Up

**July 26-Aug 9** – Book Sale

**July 28** – Doug’s Fish Fry

**Aug 12** – Ukulele Camp Concert to benefit KFFP. They are asking for donations of macaroni and cheese this year. Some representation at the concert is requested.