

Hazard Library Association
Minutes for September 8, 2025 Meeting
Held at Opendore

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

Excused: Pat Berry, Sonjia Turner

Guests: Larry Liberatore, Guy Garnsey, Andy Simkin

President Nancy Hart called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

MINUTES of the previous meeting: The August minutes should be corrected where it says "so moved" instead it should say "Carried". Connie moved to accept the minutes with the correction and it was seconded by Betsy. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- * We received a check for the first 90% of the State funding which goes into the regular fund. We will receive a check for the remaining 10% later in the year.
- * Patricia contacted Jay Engels from Lansing about auditing. He requested last year's end-of-the-year report. After brief discussion, the Board approved having Patricia send a copy of last year's information.
- * Lisa reported that our State report is not due until after the first of next year.
- * We currently have 2 CDs.
- * Bess motioned to approve the Treasurer's report and Connie seconded. Carried.

SUMMER READING:

- * Lisa needs to complete the Summer Reading Information and submit it to FLLS. This information will be forwarded on to the State Library and also included in our 2025 Annual Report.
- * Next week will be busy with students who returned Summer Reading Forms being invited to the Ice Cream party which will be held next Friday (9/19).

* Lisa and Sandy will be available at the Emily Howland Back-to-School Open House on Thurs 9/18 to promote library activities and Library Card Sign-up Month.

* On 9/20, Lisa and Sandy will be at the Food Pantry promoting library programs and library cards as well

Elaine Meyers sent information requesting that books and other information that have been gathered through the Anne Frank Tree Committee be housed at Opendore as part of Hazard Library's collection. They are currently at the SCCS high school library where there does not seem to be much access. The Board is thinking positively about this request.

Guest Speaker: LARRY LIBERATORE

* There is some concern as for phase 1-- there were only 2 bidders. Only the Bouley bid seemed to be complete.

* Documents have been revised with the architect and contractor. The bid was \$577,000 which included weatherproofing— rubber flashing (\$38,000) and an extra \$30,000 for unforeseen expenses.

* In a letter from the architect to Bouley Construction, it was noted that the contractor has to have at least 2 million dollars of their own liability insurance.

* The Board plans to award the proposal for Phase 1 in the amount of \$577,000 to Bouley contractors. Nancy has written a letter to the Emerson Foundation for a grant to help with the cost of this project.

* We need to meet to draft a letter to the local dairy farmers and other Southern Cayuga businesses seeking funds for this project.

* The Phase 2 quote is \$735,000.

* Andy Simkin stated concerns that we will run out of money for this project and feels Bouley's bid is way too high. He suggested waiting until we have more funds available. Lisa pointed out that we cannot apply for Phase 2 funds if we don't show that Phase 1 has been started and we are working on a deadline.

*. Larry commented that we do not have to have the same contractor for our future phases.

Nancy made a motion to accept the Bouley quote for \$577,000 with the intention of making changes to reduce the scope and cost. Seconded by Patricia. Carried.

Patricia made a motion to approve the use of the Bouley Construction Phase 2 proposal of \$735,000 as to the cost in the construction grant proposal. Seconded by Connie. Carried.

Betsy motioned to approve for the library to submit our NYS Library Construction Grant for Phase 2 through FLLS. This is due today. FLLS will submit it to the State in October. Seconded by Bess. Carried.

POST OFFICE UPDATE:

Nancy asked our lawyer to write a letter (which has been sent) to the postal authorities.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Betsy Donald, Acting Secretary

LISA'S MONTHLY REPORT IS AS FOLLOWS:

August 20 – *Joint Operating Committee meeting to be held with Opendore representatives. We are still working through some issues with changes made to electrical service, drainage, and potential impact on trees and existing building space. We are working through this with the architect and contractor.*

August 21 – *FALCONS Meeting – the FLLS budget was presented. Polaris fees will remain the same in 2016.*

August 23 – *Enchanted Festival held in Aurora from the library to the farmer's market (at the firehouse). Hazard Library and United Ministry were represented in "Pirate's Cove". We had 84 adults, 7 teens, and 95 children stop by for activities.*

August 26 -*Received phase 1 bid from Chuck Bouley for \$577,000 (see attached).*

August 27 – *Town of Scipio Planning Board approved completing the SEAF (Short Environmental Assessment Form) for the grant indicating that the construction won't have any significant environmental impact on the property. This had been determined in 2023 when we completed the first grant but the form needs to be signed every year. Thank you to Guy for bringing it before the board.*

September 3 – *Southern Cayuga Book Club met at Patti Wentworth's home to discuss "The Truth of Who You Are" by Sheila Myers. Despite the name and look of the book, which led people to think it was a self-help book, it is a novel which takes place in the Smoky Mountains and focuses on the CCC. Interestingly the author teaches ecology here at CCC. She will be the featured author of this year's Book Lover's Ball in Aurora and will be giving a talk on Sun 10/5 at 2:00 PM at the Aurora Library. There were 11 people in attendance at the Book Club meeting and it was a beautiful evening to meet outdoors.*

September 4 – Received phase 2 bid from Chuck Bouley for \$735,000 (see attached)

Upcoming

Sept 9 – First day of Story Hour for 2025-2026 school year

Sept 18 – Open House/Back-to-School Night at Emily Howland

Sept 19 – Ice cream sundae party at Emily Howland to celebrate participation in Summer Reading

Sept 20 – Library representation at King Ferry Food Pantry

Sept (18 or 25?) – First UPK Story Time at Emily Howland