

Hazard Library Association Board of Trustees  
Minutes  
Opendore, Monday, October 13, 2025, 6:30 pm

In Attendance: Lisa Semenza, Kathie Garnsey, Pat Berry, Connie Rejman, Bess Simkin, Betsy Donald, Nancy Hart

- Zoom- Patricia Covert
- Guests- Guy Garnsey, Andy Simkin

Absent: Sonjia Turner

Meeting called to order at 6:42 PM

**1. Minutes to the September meeting** – Motion made to approve the minutes with correction by Connie Rejman, Bess Simkin seconded it. Motion carried. Correction to the September minutes – Where Larry Liberatore is updating the board on the construction status, “The Phase 2 bid” should be a quote rather than bid in the minutes. Motion carried.

**2. Treasurer’s Report** – Patricia

Transfer of money from the money market was made to cover the architect’s fee.

Insurance was due and the Polaris fees were paid this month.

Family Literacy grant was used for cards for the kids for the Food Pantry.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s report by Betsy Donald, Connie Rejman seconded. Motion carried.

**3. Library Director’s Report** – Lisa Semenza

See Director’s Report-

Phase II of the Building Grant was submitted on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October to the State.

We have received our first bill from the contractors (Bouley). An Application for Certificate for Payment from Bouley Associates was received for \$128, 250.

Baker & Taylor went under and has left many libraries in a quandary. We are going to use Ingram and Amazon to continue ordering books. Lisa has taken the old Baker & Taylor orders that have not arrived and reordered them through Ingram.

Thursday 10/9 a construction meeting was held.

Addendum was made to our Ground Lease with Opendore where we will not pay any shared expenses until the project is substantially complete. Betsy Donald made a motion to sign the Addendum and Kathie Garnsey seconded the motion. Motion carried to sign the Addendum. The Addendum was signed by both parties – Opendore and Hazard Library.

**4. Things to Discuss** – Lisa

Bookkeeping and audits- Bess and Kathie have recommended Connie Daloia. Phone: 315-406-5361.

We need to have an audit prior to being able to apply for more grants.

**Masonry work** - It still needs to be done, board members have contacted multiple contractors with no results. Bess Simkin stated she will contact someone.

## 5. **Old Business**

- **Construction Update-** see above
- **Annual Appeal:** Nancy Hart has started the letter for this year.
- **Capital Campaign/Fundraising**

Fundraising committee was formed. It consists of Betsy Donald, Connie Rejman, and Pat Berry. They will work on putting a format together to talk to and to give to the local dairies and businesses about donations. Nancy Hart will give the committee the info she used for the Emerson Foundation. We need a list of local dairies and businesses to approach. Last year's Annual Appeal letter has the reason for a new library and the amount we need to build a library. The Chamber of Congress office in Auburn has a program that tells us where to get grants to apply for.

- **Finding New Board Members:** reminder
- **Sexual Harassment Training/Trustee Education Hours:** reminder
- **Post Office Lease Renewal Update:**

Nancy Hart has spoken to the PO Rep in Washington, DC. Talked to him about a two-year lease renewable every two years and raising the rent to \$800 per month. Hugo Gorman stated that the PO would probably not accept anything for anything less than 5 years. Our lawyer (Cole) is sending a letter to the PO requesting the two-year lease with an increase to \$800 in rent.

## 6. **New Business**

7. Next Meeting: November 10, 2025, at 6:30PM at Opendore.

Submitted by: Pat Berry