



South Haven Memorial Library August 11, 2026 Minutes

Members:

Gordon Bleil – President
Marge Lampe – Vice President
Marilyn Bertorelli – Treasurer
Liz Smith – Secretary

Ida Sledge – Trustee
Robert Booker – Trustee
Sandi Starland - Trustee

Also Present: Elaine Fluck; James France, Director

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Bleil at 7 p.m.

Approval of meeting minutes for July 14, 2026: Motion to approve by Lampe. Motion carried. A copy will be sent to City Council and Township Board.

Approval of agenda for August 11, 2026: Motion to approve by Smith. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Treasurer's report: Operations for July- **Total income:** \$23,534.73; **Total expenses:** \$51,614.40; **Vendors' bills:** \$47,924.39; Motion to pay vendor bills by Smith, motion carried. **Renovation budget income:** \$160.01; **Renovation budget expenses:** \$0.00

Director's Report:

- Report of monthly statistics was distributed with financial reports
- Van Buren District Library will extend service to Geneva Township until the end of the year, contingent on Geneva Township placing a millage on the November ballot. SHML service to Geneva Township will continue for now.
- New light fixtures have been purchased. Waiting for installation date.
- A crack in one of the windowpanes facing Broadway will cost \$3200 to replace – the Library's deductible is \$500. Waiting for glass company to receive glass.
- Jen, the children's librarian, is leaving at the end of the week. France is exploring staffing options, possibly using a team approach.
- Library reduced hours will begin October 5, end April 24.
- Director will be gone for the October 13 Board meeting.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- Trustee orientation, Lib of Mi Trustee Manual Chap. 9: Began trustee orientation reviewing Chap 9., Intellectual Freedom. Will continue discussion in September, reviewing Chap. 9 in conjunction with relevant library policies.
- Bleil presented a Physical Plant Inventory/Maintenance form. What needs to be done each quarter? When will items need to be replaced? This will allow library to budget and spread costs out over time. Will continue to add items to list as they are identified.

New Business:

- Library should investigate joint ventures with other community organizations, including schools, HASH, Maritime Museum.

- Friends of the Library made \$1,083.12 during recent book sale. Over recent years, the Friends group has raised over \$10,000 to support library programs.
- Brief discussion about using AI for note taking. Bleil will investigate possibilities.

Board Comments:

- The recent dinosaur-themed summer program was excellent.
- Root Beer Floats on the patio on Aug. 21, 3-5 p.m.
- The library does have a bike rack – located at the west end of the building.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Bleil, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next regular meeting: September 8, 2026, 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Smith, Secretary