



South Haven Memorial Library September 8, 2026 Minutes

Members:

Gordon Bleil – President

Marge Lampe – Vice President

Marilyn Bertorelli – Treasurer

Liz Smith – Secretary

Also Present: James France, Director

Ida Sledge – Trustee

Robert Booker – Trustee

Sandi Starland - Trustee

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Bleil at 7:01 p.m.

Approval of meeting minutes for August 11, 2026: Motion to approve by Lampe. Motion carried. A copy will be sent to City Council and Township Board.

Approval of agenda for September 8, 2026: Motion to approve by Smith. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Treasurer's report: Operations for August- **Total income:** \$55,081.27; **Total expenses:** \$49,370.45; **Vendors' bills:** \$54,258.12; Motion to pay vendor bills by Lampe, motion carried. **Renovation budget income:** \$17,740.98; **Renovation budget expenses:** \$0.00

Director's Report:

- Monthly statistics and financial reports distributed.
- Recommendation to remove metal gridwork on Broadway St. wall. Discussion of possible options to removal followed. Board requests director to investigate alternatives, including a commissioned sculpture. If removal is final decision, is there a high school class that would benefit from the metal? Due to his absence at October meeting, Director will provide a report beforehand.
- Director will meet with staff to review coverage, duties, and reporting structure. Discussion of coverage in Children's Room followed. Several staff have expressed interest in taking over some of the responsibilities. Questions asked about whether a team approach is the best way to grow the Children's Department. Will there be shortages in the main library if responsibilities are reassigned? Director will keep Board informed.
- Reminders:
 - Library reduced hours will begin October 5, end April 24.
 - Director will be gone for the October 13 Board meeting.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- As part of trustee orientation, there was a discussion of Library Privacy Policy and applicable laws (USA Patriot Act, Michigan Library Privacy Act 455)
Director will revise the Library privacy policy and make sure it is consistent with current law.
- Discussion of policy "Issuing South Haven Memorial Library Cards to Out-of-Service Area South Haven Public School Students". In effect, all students are already eligible for Library cards.

New Business:

- The Library has videoconferencing equipment available.

- Computers in Children's Area do not provide internet access. Some of the software indicates touchscreen options, but the computers are not touchscreen.

Board Comments: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Bleil, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Next regular meeting: October 13, 2026, 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Smith, Secretary