Ethos:

In “LFSC,” Pete Hamill creates an ethical appeal in order to show that he is credible and not biased. When the writer says, “Such reductions are absolutely understandable,” he appeals to the audience’s sense of knowledge by making a counterargument, showing both sides of the proposal. This is effective because it makes the people trust him and understand why he’s putting up this fight. Another example is when the author says, “…We must do it ourselves,” this shows that he is also investing himself in the campaign and not just dictating the people. The author’s effective use of first person pronouns here helps persuade the reader [because it shows] that he is also impacted by the situation. The author’s use of ethos is persuasive because it shows that he is credible, knowledgeable, and not biased.

Pathos:

This writing heavily relies on the use of pathos, ranging from childhood stories to the books’ importance for the disadvantaged who are new to this country. His recounting of the library he discovered at 8 is full of positive, wondrous word choice, such as “majestic” and “wonderful,” describing the children’s section, as well as “bursting with images,” all of which showing the sheer wonder they, and likely other children, felt at such a place. This is intended to bring warm, pleasant memories or images to the reader, so he or she will also react negatively to cutting the libraries’ funds. After presenting his main point, the author moves to reinforce it by showing another sympathetic group that is changed for the best y libraries: immigrants. He shows that libraries are necessary for those wanting to become American citizens, as he is even able to speak from personal experience, as “[his] father only went through eighth grade in Belfast. [he] remembers his mother drilling him at [their] kitchen table for his citizenship test…he first reae the constitution in a book borrowed from the prospect branch of the Brooklyn Public Library.” This shows how the author was up close, witnessed the effect libraries have on immigrants. With this powerful reason backing up his previous one, he shows that if funding must be cut somewhere, it should not be the libraries, a necessity at the post-9/11 time the article was written. Thus pathos appeals to the reader’s emotion in an effort to sway the readers to support libraries.

Logos:

In “LFSC,” Pete Hamill uses precedent and facts in order to create a logical appeal to the audience. When Hamill states “since those ancient [times], we have needed myth…and information about the world beyond the nearest mountains or oceans,” he appeals to the audience’s logic by using the precedents of the pursuit of knowledge to justify its necessity in the present. This is effective because it brings the audience to believe that since this has been done since the beginning of time, it should not be discontinued. Similarly the speaker’s appeal to logic is employed when he says the library was “crowded with immigrants” and brings up the fact that these people, “came from places where there were no libraries for the poor.” This is an effective way to persuade the audience because it highlights that public libraries are a true luxury that should, and need, to be appreciated. The speaker’s use of the logos appeal is persuasive because it uses precedent of pursuit of knowledge to convince the reader that they should also pursue knowledge and it also highlights how much of luxury being able to go to libraries really is.