

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

March 12, 2012 6:45-7:45 PM

Attendees:

John Egan, Helene Thorpe, David Bristowe, Tracy Pasquale, Sharon Duris. Linda Noll, Library Director Karl Helicher, and Carole Kenney, Township Liaison

New Board Member

- The Library Board welcomed Linda Noll as its newest member.

Minutes

- Minutes of the February 2012 Library Board meeting were approved.

Adult Services

- Three Book Chats are planned - Tamar Chamsky, Ph.D. (*Freeing Yourself from Anxiety*), Eliot Shorr-Parks and Steve Parks (*More Than A Game: Life Lessons from Philadelphia's Sports Community*), and Tim Wendel (*Summer of '68: The Season That Changed Baseball*).
- The Book Discussion Series: *Time, Place, Perspective*, begins March 18 with Carla Verderame leading the discussion on *The Little Friend*, by Donna Tartt. Thirty-two readers have signed up and received books.
- The Friends of Black History will hold their evaluation meeting of February's event on March 20. There was discussion that the Friends may have arrived at a good solution that keeps the same format of the event, but making it shorter, ending at lunch, with no afternoon program.
- The Evanced Events Managing Software is in place and can be utilized via the "Calendar of Events" where patrons can now sign-up for events online through the township's library website.
- The "Getting Organized" program, led by Darla DeMorrow, was held on February 29 and attended by fifteen people.
- A five-part "Get Money Smart" series, led by Patti Colby, began on March 6 and will run through May 22.
- Dr. Suresh Chaturvedi will host a presentation on Ayurveda, the Eastern holistic lifestyle.

Children's Services

- Children's book author, Zachariah OHora visited the library on February 21 to share his children's book, *Stop Snoring Bernard*, and to be interviewed for Book Chat.
- Registration for Spring Story times begins March 12. The six-week story-hour session begins the week of March 26.
- The Junior Friends are rehearsing weekly for the upcoming Night of Margie Palantini Reader's Theatre Presentation which is scheduled for March 28.
- April is designated as Family Reading Month – parents are invited to read with their children 20 minutes a day for at least five days and in doing so, can enter a drawing for prizes including free passes to the Elmwood Zoo.

Budget

- The 2012-2013 state budget includes an approximately \$5,000 reduction in library funding.

Building

- An additional panic button was installed, and procedures for medical emergencies within the library were clarified and communicated.

New Business

- Karl updated the Board on the state of e-books. Penguin Press has pulled out of offering e-books to libraries. Out of the seven major publishers, four will not sell e-books to libraries. Two publishers are fine with it, and one, Random House, will sell to libraries, but at double-to-triple the normal e-book price.
- 2012 Library Friend of the Year: The Nemchenkos were very pleased to be named and will attend a reception planned for the April 9 board meeting. Carole looked into also recognizing the Nemchenkos with a Township Proclamation. The best practice is for this to be done after the library presentation and Karl will see if the May Township Supervisor dates will work for the Nemchenkos.
- The Joint Meeting with the Township Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, April 23, 2012 from 7:00 – 7:30 pm. The agenda will be similar to prior years – brief reports from the library staff, comments from the Library Board, and a brief question and answer session.
- Karl informed the Board that the Township Board Appreciation Dinner is tentatively planned for October 14 or 21, at a place to be determined.

Upcoming Events

- April 9, 2012 – Library Board meeting at 6:45 p.m.
- April 23, 2012 – Joint Meeting with Township Board of Supervisors from 7:00-7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


David Bristowe, Secretary