

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

June 11, 2012 @ 6:45 – 7:45 pm

Attendees:

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

Minutes:

- Minutes of the May 2012 Library Board Meeting were approved.

Adult Services:

- The Book Discussion Series ended on Sunday, May 20 with its fifth installment. Erin Hurt led the discussion which was attended by thirteen readers. Book titles for the fall series will be chosen by August 1.
- On May 20, a Book Chat with Dr. Hal Gullan on *Toomey's Triumph: inside a Key Senate Campaign* was taped. Upcoming Book Chats that have been scheduled include one on June 27 with Dr. Stanley Weintraub about his book *Final Victory: FDR's Extraordinary World War II Presidential Campaign* and one on July 25 with W.D. Ehrhart about his book *Dead on a High Hill: Essays on War, Literature, and Living, 2002-2012*. Three others, which are being confirmed, include Carol Miller (*Up All Night: My Life and Times in Rock Radio*), William Ecenbarger (*Kids for Cash: Two Judges, Thousands of Children, and a \$2.6 Million Kickback Scheme*), and Harlow Giles Unger (*John Quincy Adams*).
- Score (Service Corps of Retired Executives) hosted a Small Business Conference on May 22. Attendance exceeded expectations with 235 attending (100 were expected) and while parking was tight, the event was very successful.
- The annual "One Book, One Community" discussion will be held on August 14. The bestselling, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* is the book chosen for 2012. Paperback copies of the book can be purchased through the library at cost.

Children's Services:

- From a lottery of 74, participants for the Science in the Summer classes were selected and notified.
- Tori Conicello from Tempo Therapy provided a demonstration music class for 18 preschoolers and 12 parents on June 11.
- "Dinosaur Night" at the library, which includes a movie and a trivia competition, is planned for June 13, and is sponsored by the Optimist Club.
- School visits were completed on June 4 with Jeanne Kauffman and Laura Arnhold providing assemblies at all of the elementary schools, the middle school, and MDP to award reading medals and promote the upcoming Summer Reading programs. So far 474 children have pre-registered for the Summer Reading program which begins on June 18. From these early results, online registration, which is new this year, is working well.

- Preparations continue for Summer Reading, which is centered on the theme, “Dream Big: Read.” The focus this summer will be on all things related to the night – dreams, dreamers, the night sky, nocturnal animals. Deaf magician Sam Sandler will help kick off the program on the night of June 19. Future shows include the Franklin Institute’s Life in Space show, Duet Productions live presentation of *Alice in Wonderland*, the Elmwood Zoo’s nocturnal animal show, Piccirilo Scienceteller’s presentation of “Dragons and Dreams”, and a planetarium show. Artwork by Stephanie Spangler related to the theme is being displayed.

Budget:

- The Goals and Objectives workshop will be held on Tuesday, June 12. It will be the township staffs’ first interaction with David Kraynick, the new Township Manager.

New Business:

- The Towers Lodge which has been in existence since 1979 is folding. During that time the Lodge has continually donated funds to the library for books and materials about Jewish history and culture. Before it folds, Towers Lodge would like to donate \$5,000 to the library for such books. For this generosity, the board agreed to recognize and honor the Towers Lodge with a plaque that would name our Judaic collection in honor of the Towers Lodge, as well as place in each book a plate with the same information.
- There was a general discussion about Library Friend of the Year.
- The Library Board agreed to cancel the August 13, 2012 meeting due to low anticipated attendance.

Report from Carole Kenney-Supervisor Liaison:

- Carole updated the Library Board on recent township news.

Upcoming Events:

- Next Board meeting – Monday, July 9, 2012 at 6:45 (the August 13 meeting will be canceled)

Respectfully submitted,

David Bristowe, Secretary