

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting
May 12, 2014-6:45-7:45P.M.

Attendees:

David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Aleta Duey, John Egan, Janet Medrow, Karl Helicher-Library Board Director, Carole Kenney-Township Liaison

Minutes:

There were no minutes to approve due to the joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors in April.

Fundraising:

The library board discussed an idea of having a Wine and Beer Bacchanal set for Saturday September 27, 2014. We are awaiting approval from David Kraynik who will discuss this with BOS.

Adult Services:

Spring book discussion series concludes on May 18, 2014 with a discussion of, The Art of Hearing Heartbeats, by Jan-Phillip Sendker.

Two Book Chats have been confirmed for the fall: A Christmas Far From Home: An Epic Tale of Courage and Survival during the Korean War, and The Chief Justice Who Saved the Nation.

Rotary donated \$1,000 to Karl Helicher that will be used to buy board books for the children's department's outreach program.

June 16, 2014 Adult and Young Adult Reading clubs begins where participants have the chance to win prizes for writing short reviews for books they have read. The young adult is for students in grades 7-12.

Sangeetha Srinivasan, adult library program coordinator, is forming TAG(Teen Advisory Group) so that children graduating from the Junior Friends of the Library will have a group to call their own. TAG events kickoff on June 16, 2014 and will include an author appearance, book discussions, a movie, and other activities. TAG is for students in grades 9-12.

On May 19, 2014, Tech night will be held again with owners of electronic devices, including Kindles, Nooks, I pads and such can receive one-on-one assistance.

A two-part workshop will be held on Saturday's June 14 and 21 from 1p.m.-3:30p.m. on how to get the most out of your social security.

On June 21, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. an SAT Preparation Workshop will be held.

The Atrium Display currently has watercolor paintings by Shahla Siddiqi, and a collection of materials on greyhound adoption, loaned by Janet Medrow.

Children's Services:

April is designated as Family Reading Month in the Children's Department. Calendars were distributed listing all of April's activities. Parents were challenged to read 20 minutes a day with their children. Families who reported 5 days of reading aloud with their children received an entry for a prize drawing that took place on April 30. On March 28, 2014 Fifteen three and four year olds along with fifteen high school

students visited the library for a story and activity time with Susan Kirkpatrick.

On April 2 a Daisy Scout troop visited the library for a short story time and behind the scenes tour with Laura Arnhold and Jeanne Kauffman.

The Ninth Annual title chosen for the One Book Every Young Child program which promotes the importance of early literacy by emphasizing the importance of reading early and often to children, as well as engaging them in conversation and other activities around books is Stripes of All Types written and illustrated by Susan Stockdale.

On April 11, 2014 1st -4th graders attended Fun Friday with Laura Arnhold. The focus was money smarts.

On April 9th and 16th the library showed the movie Monster's University.

As of now three hundred eighty-nine children are participating in the 1,000 books before Kindergarten program.

There are currently 50 active pairs of reading buddies meeting weekly for reading practice. On May 28, 2014 the library will host a reading celebration for all the participants in this program.

On April 7, 2014 the library's annual environmental Jeopardy competition took place for middle school students. Maddie Bahmueller was the 1st place winner. Emily Adams took 2nd place. The winners received prizes and everyone enjoyed dirt cake and lemonade refreshments.

On April 12, 2014 Jeanne Kauffman and Laura Arnhold attended the annual Kutztown University's Children's Literature Conference. Presentations were by children's book authors Frank Serafini, Jim Murphy, and David Wiesner.

On April 14, 2014 five middle school boys attended a Financial Literacy Night with Laura Arnhold where they learned and discussed about spending, saving, needs verses wants, and choosing a balanced lifestyle. Participants were challenged to think about what it would take to earn a million dollars.

Outreach to local preschools ended on April 22, 2014. Storytellers provided story times to 44 separate preschool classrooms focusing on the One Book Every Young Child selection, Stripes of All Types. Each class received a free copy of the book and storytellers modeled practices that build early literacy skills. Traveling story times will resume again in the fall.

On April 17, 2014 twenty children aged 3½ to 6 years of age participated in the library's Earth Day Story time with Diane Shatzman. Each participant received a hand puppet to take home made from recycled bottle caps, pipe cleaners and googly eyes.

On April 26, 2014 for part of Earth Day Celebration the library put up a Story Walk through the park behind the township building featuring pages from One Book Every Young Child selection, Stripes of All Types.

Beginning April 26, 2014 the library is offering a three week Parent/Child Workshop for children ages 1 to 3 and their parent or caregiver on three consecutive Saturdays to accommodate working parents.

At the Family Reading Month closing event on April 30, 2014 twelve members of the Junior Friends Thespian group presented skits and songs to 52 people.

In honor of National Poetry month, Laura Arnhold and Becky Ginther highlighted the children's department poetry collection on the large display table.

The small table focused on Earth Day.

Holiday books for April Fools, Passover and Easter as well books on autism for Autism Awareness Month were showcased during April.

There were also small displays on Flat Stanley in Washington D.C., the Titanic, and science in honor of the annual Science Festival held each year in Philadelphia during April.

Report from Carole Kenney-Supervisor Liaison:

Carole updated the Board on Various township actives.

Upcoming Events:

June 9, 2014 Library Board Meeting 6:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Duris".

Sharon Duris