

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

June 9, 2014-6:45-7:30P.M.

Attendees:

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

Minutes:

Minutes were approved from the May 12, 2014 meeting.

Fundraising:

The library board continued to discuss the idea of having a Wine and Beer Bacchanal on Saturday September 27, 2014. It will be titled: "A Toast to the Library"

Adult Services and Director's Comments:

- Tangled Ties is the theme of the adult fall book discussion series. Dates have been set and will be publicized later so readers can enjoy summer.
- Registration has been brisk for the discussion of The Sprit Keeper, by K.B. Laugheed. This will be on July 10, 2014 at 6p.m.
- John B. Lord will appear on June 18, 2014 to discuss his new book Bill Giles and Baseball.
- Tech night has become very popular. Most recent one was May 19, 2014 with the next one on June 14, 2014.
- Summer reading begins on June 16, 2014. This year, completing science based games will be eligible for prizes.
- On May 14, 2014, a visit to the Senior Center was a success. Members of the center were introduced to the summer reading program and will be able to join and participate for the first time.
- Other upcoming programs are: Social Security Workshops on June 14 and 21, 2014. Free SAT Practice Test on June 21, 2014, and TAG(Teen Advisory Group) starts with a book discussion on June 23, 2014. For more details check the library's website and Face Book Page.
- Displays in the library were Beautiful mosaic designs from Kitty Strzelecki.
- Atrium displays were Friends of Valley Forge Park Promoting "March Out Week," which commemorates General George Washington's march to Valley Forge on June 19, 1778.

Children's Services:

- On May 5, 2014 thirty-two middle school students attended the Junior Friends Volunteer Group end of the school year party. Participants made shrink-dink key chains, and played fruit basket upset.
- Registration was taken during the month of May for the Science in the Summer Program sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline. There will be both morning and afternoon classes for children entering second through sixth grade on July 21-July 24, 2014. Eighty-six students registered with sixty-four being selected by a lottery. The participants will also receive an introduction to chemistry.

- Twenty-six children in 1st-4th grade attended Fun Friday with Miss Laura on May 9th, 2014. Participants listened to a recording of Lemony Snicket's book The Composer is Dead, read by the author.
- The six week spring story hour sessions ended the week of May 5, 2014. Registration for the summer story hour begins June 2, 2014.
- The evening Pajama Story time class and the yoga story time class will not be offered during the summer, but will return in the fall.
- On May 13, 2014 the library offered the third monthly S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) story and activity class for children ages 3½-6. The children listened to the book Who Sank the Boat by Pamela Allen. Participants learned about density by experimenting with different household objects to see which float when placed in a tub of water. Sixteen children attend. Participants were given take-home color and activity sheets to extend the learning at home.
- Staff members, Sue Kirkpatrick, Sangeetha Srinivasan, BJ Miraglia and Laura Arnhold represented the library at Upper Merion High School's first literacy night. The keynote speaker was book author, Cheryl Dellasega who discussed the writing process and her book, Surviving Ophelia. In addition there were break-out sections that included presentations by Laura Arnhold and former Upper Merion Township Library storyteller, Kristin Pedemonti. Laura shared about her experiences writing her own blog. There were more than 100 parents and students who attended this event which is expected to become an annual event.
- Ten children from Upper Merion Baptist Nursery School visited the library for a story and hands on activity time that focused on the book, Who Sank the Boat by Pamela Allen.
- Eighty fourth graders from Caley Elementary visited the township on May 22, 2014 for a tour of the Police Station, the library and the UMGA-TV office. Following the tour the students had fun with a library jeopardy competition.
- Jeanne Kauffman and Laura Arnhold visited Roberts, Candlebrook, Caley, Bridgeport, Mother Teresa Regional Catholic School and Upper Merion Middle School to award reading medals and to preview this summer's reading club. The Upper Merion Middle School visit also included an after school recognition party co-hosted by middle school librarians. Over 90 middle school students enjoyed carnival games, bingo and refreshments. Students have already begun pre-registering for summer reading through their school librarians.
- Nine middle school students from Mrs. Kitching's Upper Merion Middle School enrichment class provided a special bird themed story time for children ages 3½ and their parents on May 22, 2014. The students wrote and illustrated stories that they shared with the children, planned songs and other activities and put together the flyer and poster to advertise the event. After the story time, participants were given the opportunity to go on a bird hunt to locate pictures of different birds that had been posted throughout the children's department. Each child was given plastic children's binoculars to take home. Close to fifty children and parents participated.
- Susan Kirkpatrick coordinated a Reading Buddies Celebration on May 28, 2014 for participants in this year's Reading Buddies Program. Participants made scratch art bookmarks and received recognition certificates and Chick-Fil-A coupons. More than 100 students and parents were on hand to honor this year's reading buddies. Fifty-two

pairs of reading buddies are currently meeting weekly at the library for reading practice.

- Laura Arnhold led two groups of children in a special story time focusing on song and dance activities. Approximately thirty toddlers and parents were on hand for the toddler dance party and twenty-five preschoolers participated in the afternoon session.
- Series books were highlighted on the large table display. Rina Das featured books with one word titles on the small table display. Other special displays featured holiday books for Mother's Day, Cinco de Mayo, Memorial Day and Flag Day. Books on cars, trucks, ducks, and gardens were also displayed.
- Summer Reading begins on June 16, 2014. Students in kindergarten through eighth grade may sign up for the program to earn stickers, food coupons, reading medals and small prizes.
- The library's kick-off program on June 17, 2014 will feature the Juggling Hoffmans.

Report from Carole Kenney-Supervisor Liaison:

- Carole updated the Board on Various township actives.

Upcoming Events:

- No July 14, 2014 Library Board Meeting for summer vacation.
- August 11, 2014 Library Board Meeting 6:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Duris