

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

October 7, 2013 - 6:45 – 7:30 P.M.

Attendees:

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

Minutes:

- Minutes of the September 2013 Library Board meeting were approved.

Director's Comments:

- Karl expressed his gratitude to the Library Board, and the Board of Supervisors for contributing to the success of the Library's fiftieth anniversary, Friend of the Year Presentation, and Dedication of the Library's Family Place in memory of Helene Thorpe. He also expressed thanks to John Egan for his remarks during the Fiftieth Anniversary Proclamation, Carole Kenney for her presentation of the Proclamation and touching remarks about Helene, and Jeanne Kauffman for organizing and hosting the Family Place dedication.

Adult Services:

- The annual Friends of Black History Jazz Night will be held on Friday, October 11, featuring Tal Shtuhl, saxophone master and Upper Merion Area High School graduate, as well as other jazz musicians. The event is free and runs from 7-9 p.m.
- Halloween Season will be ushered in by Paul Pedersen, storyteller and musician, on October 14 at 7 p.m. when Paul will share his songs and stories from his new book, *The Legendary Pine Barrens*.
- An evening with Larry Kane will be held on October 23 at 7 p.m., where he will discuss and sign copies of his new book *When They Were Boys: The True Story of the Beatles' Rise To The Top*.
- Fall Discussion Series is titled "On the Move: Changing Places and Spaces" and will feature five discussions. The first was held on September 29 and was attended by 29 readers, one of the largest groups in the series' sixteen year history. The second discussion will be held on October 13 at 2 p.m., where Carla Verderame will lead the discussion on *Brooklyn*, by Colm Toibin.
- Two recent Book Chats were held – one with Dr. Stanley Wientraub on October 2 where he discussed his new work, *Young Mr. Roosevelt* (this was his third Book Chat appearance) and one with Larry Needle, who discussed his book, *Home Court: The True Story of the Best Basketball Team You've Never Heard Of*. This one was hosted by Jeanne Kauffman on September 25. After Larry Kane's Book Chat (mentioned above), two more are scheduled – one on November 13 with Harlow Unger (*Mr. President: George Washington and the Making of the Nation's Highest Office*), and one on December 4, with Janneken Smucker, Ph.D., (*Amish Quilts: Crafting An American Icon*).

Children's Services:

- Laura Arnhold, assistant Children's Librarian, was named the 2013 "New Librarian of the Year," by the Pennsylvania Library Association. Laura was honored for her creative story hours, library programs, and commitment to youth services. The award is presented annually to a librarian with less than five years professional experience. The Board was very excited to hear this news and expressed their appreciation of Laura's dedication and commitment.
- The popular Enchanted Library will be held on November 8, with the theme *Mother Goose* from 6-8:30 p.m. As done in the past, the library will close an hour early to allow for set up. This event is one of the busiest event's for the library. Laura Arnold and the Junior Friends have made this a wonderful event for several years.
- The 39th Write and Illustrate Your Own Book Contest entries are due on October 23.
- Winners were selected from the 153 entries in this past summer's Art Contest. All of the entries are hanging from the ceiling in the children's department. The children were given a diamond drawing as a canvas for creativity.

Budget:

- Karl is working through the library's 2014 budget process, having met with Manger David Krainik, Nick Hiriak, and Judy Vicchio on September 30 to review the library's proposed budget. As directed, the operating budget includes no increases. The capital budget includes \$10,000 for shades for the front and Henderson Road sides of the building to protect the books, shelving, and patron area from sunlight. The Board of Supervisors approves budgets on December 5th, but before then Karl will meet with them on November 6 to review the budget.

Report from Carole Kenney-Supervisor Liaison:

- Carole updated the Board on various township activities.

Upcoming Events:

- October 11 – Jazz Night
- October 14 – Halloween night of stories and songs with Paul Evans Pederson, Jr.
- October 20 - Citizen's Board Appreciation Luncheon at Maggiano's in King of Prussia.
- October 23 – Larry Kane book discussion
- November 8 – Enchanted Library
- November 11 (Monday) – Library Board meeting at 6:45 p.m.
- December 9 (Monday) – Library Board meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


David Bristowe, Secretary