

## Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

March 9, 2015-6:45p.m.-7:55p.m.

### **Attendees:**

David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, John Egan, Karl Helicher-Library Director, Katie Kohler, Linda Noll, Tracy Pasquale, Carol Kenney-Township Liaison

### **Minutes:**

- Minutes were approved from the February 9, 2015 meeting.

### **New Business:**

- The Library Board welcomed new member Katie Kohler.

### **Fundraising:**

- The Library Board continued to discuss the Library Mini Golf Tournament that is set for March 28, 2015 from 10a.m.-5p.m.

### **Adult Services and Directors comments:**

- On February 21, 2015 was the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Black History; "Reaching Back, Moving Forward." The day started out with Daisy Century's reenactment of Mary Fields, followed by lunch and wonderful music and singing by Veronica and VEP. There were at least 70 people to start, but by the end due to snow, there were twelve people left.
- On February 7, 2015, Charles Blockson a highly regarded historian and bibliophile appeared to discuss his latest book.
- Other adult program, expertly managed by Sangeetha Srinivasan included TAG Book Discussion(5), Tech Night(13), College Finance Workshop(14), Knit Night(11), and ESL(40).
- Publicity for the Spring 2015 book discussion has been released. Now in its eighteenth year, the Sunday discussions have become a fixture for the 18-25 loyal readers.

### **Children's Services:**

- Twenty-one children in 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade participated in Fun Friday with Laura Arnhold on February 6, 2015.
- Eighteen members of the Junior Friends of the Library Group met on February 9, 2015 for their monthly meeting and chocolate party.
- Donna Botzum presented a special story time for eighteen adults and twenty-two children involved in the Upper Merion Mother's Club on February 10, 2015.

- Sue Kirkpatrick coordinated the library's outreach program to 18 local daycares and preschools in the library's service area.
- Don Herbert, Andrew MacBride and Mark Shepperd from UMGA-TV collaborated with library staff members to film a public service announcement (PSA) starring members of the Junior Friends of the Library on February 22, 2015. Don Herbert directed the filming of the PSA and Mark Shepperd, UMGA-TV host was charged with interviewing library staff members and Junior Friends members about the making of the PSA. In addition to shooting footage of the actual PSA, the crew shot behind the scenes moments. This will be used to create a piece on the process of making a PSA with middle school students. The PSA promotes the library's **2015 Every Hero Has a Story Summer Reading Club** and will air on the government access channel in the spring.
- Six third and fourth graders participated in an animated discussion of the book, LuLu and the Brontosaurus with Miss Laura on February 11, 2015.
- For a special story time on February 12, 2015, each child brought a stuffed animal to leave at the library overnight. Laura Arnhold presented a bedtime themed story time for the eighteen children ages 3 to 6 and their families. At the end of the story time, the children said good-bye to their stuffies. When all the participants left, Miss Laura, Miss Diane, Miss Jeanne and five members of the story time stars group staged photographs showing the stuffed animals enjoying themselves at the library. The following day, the story time participants returned to the library to pick up their stuffed animals.
- Eighteen children in K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade and six adults attended a book party focusing on dinosaurs.
- There are currently 519 preschool children enrolled in the library's 1,000 books before Kindergarten Program.
- Winter story hours continue through the week of March 16, 2015 for the infant, toddler, parachute, preschool and family story times. Registration for the Spring Story hours will begin the week of March 16, 2015.
- A three-week session of Parent/Child Workshops for children ages 1 to 3 and their parent or caregiver began February 20, 2015 and will end March 6, 2015. This three-week session focused on nutrition, music, and speech development for young children.
- A three-week session of Play Workshops for children ages 1 to 3 and their parent or caretaker took place on Monday mornings following the Parent-Child Workshops February 23-March 29, 2015.
- Kristine Pennese provided a special story time on Saturday February 21, 2015 for children ages 2 to 5 and their parents. The library will provide a six-week session of Saturday story times as part of the Spring Story Hour session which

begins April 4, 2015.

- Karl Helicher and Jeanne Kaufman attended the Rotary Club meeting on February 23, 2015 at Michael's Deli to highlight the programming and services that the library offers for children and to request continued funding for the library's Books for Babies program.
- Fifteen families participated in DIY craft activities celebrating the achievements of African Americans on February 21, 2015 as part of the library's celebration of black history.
- Sue Kirkpatrick visited Bright Horizons Daycare facility on February 27, 2015 and provided special story times for children in two classes.
- Planning continues for the summer reading program based on the theme: **Every Hero Has a Story**. All of the summer reading shows have been booked.
- Book displays in February included holiday books for Ground Hogs Day, Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, and Presidents Day. Books on dental health were featured on the small table. The large table display showcased Coretta Scott King Award winning books in honor of Black History Month.

**Report from Carole Kenney-Supervisor Liaison**

- Carole updated the board on various township activities

**Upcoming Events:**

- March 28, 2015 Library Mini Golf Fundraiser 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- April 13, 2015 Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- Joint Meeting with the Board of Supervisors April 30, 2015 8 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sharon Duris*  
Sharon Duris, Secretary