

## Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

August 10, 2015 6:45p.m.-7:25p.m.

### Attendees:

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

### Minutes:

Minutes were approved from the June 8, 2015 meeting. There were no minutes for July, as the board did not have a meeting that month.

### Adult Services and Directors Comments:

Summer Reading for adults and teens continues through August 31, 2015.

Jess Cavaliere, library page, presented a scrapbooking program on July 15, 2015. This successful program will be followed by a holiday card workshop in December, also offered by Jess.

25 participants enjoyed Zumba with Shannon on July 21, 2015. Shannon will return to participate in the library's annual De-Stress series in December.

On July 29, 2015, a repeat T-shirt spray-painting event was held.

Les Segarnick offered a program on Interviewing Basics. His well-received program will be repeated in January 2016.

Patron Presents: The library's first "Patron Presents" occurred on August 5, 2015.

Gina Gormley, longtime library user, will discuss "Eating Clean for Optimal Health".

On August 10, 2015, Reverend Ron Popivchak talked about "Historical Challenges."

Noted author and musician Craig Harris will present "Drum Away the Blues" on August 17, 2015.

Popular ongoing events: Knit Night on August 24, 2015, and Tech Night on August 31, 2015.

On Wednesday September 9, 2015 from 7-8:30 p.m., Adam Benforado, associate professor of law at Drexel University Law School, will discuss his timely and critically acclaimed, *Unfair: The Science of Criminal Injustice*.

Fall Book Discussion Series "Living on The Edge: Novels of Futures and Pasts on the Brink." For titles and details about the five part series, visit the library or visit us online.

Forthcoming Book Chats: David Hart and John Calu, *Adventures Along the Jersey Shore*, Christopher Papst, *Capital Murder: An Investigative Reporter's Hunt for Answers in a Collapsing City*.

Displays in the Atrium included Hand crafted bells loaned by the Loos Family.

Jazz Night with Veronica will be October 9, 2015 from 7-9p.m., sponsored by the Upper Merion Township Friends of Black History.

Annual Celebration of black History: Saturday, February 27, 2016: "Flying High with Black History."

## **Children's Services:**

Laura Arnhold planned and coordinated a mythology workshop for thirty-six middle school children on July 6, 2015 celebrating mythology around the world.

On July 10, 2015, the library provided separate classes for two different age groups on mythology. Lara Arnhold read selections from the book, Greek Myths for young Children by Heather Amry and selections from Fantastic Creatures from Greek Myths by Pat Posner.

An Internet Safety program co-sponsored by the library and Optimists Club of Valley Forge was presented to teens and their families on July 13, 2015.

GSK sponsored a free hands-on experiment oriented science class for 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders during the week of July 13-16, 2015.

As of August 5, 2015 there are 977 students registered for summer reading. The reading program ends August 28, 2015.

Twenty-five to thirty middle school students met every Monday night in July for book discussion and Library Jeopardy.

Laura Arnhold led a book discussion and activity time with twelve 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders centering on the book, Trouble with Chickens by Doreen Cronin on July 8, 2015.

Kristine Pennese led four art workshops in July for children in K-3<sup>rd</sup> grades

Thirty-five people attended a showing of Big Hero Six 2 on July 29, 2015.

There was a record attendance at this summer's five week Literary Lunch Program that met Thursday's at 1 P.M.

Family stages returned to the library on July 8, 2015 to do a live presentation of Aesop's Androcles and The Lion for sixty summer readers and families.

The Junior Friends of the Library Volunteer Group met the first four Mondays in July after the Book Discussion and Library Jeopardy.

The library extended summer outreach services to the township's Adventure Day Camp (ADC) and Camp Beechtree programs as well as the school district's Extended Day program during the summer. Laura Arnhold made weekly visits to ADC camp sites every Thursday in July to provide stories, crafts and games for campers ages 5 to 8 at Roberts Elementary and Upper Merion Middle School. Sue Kirkpatrick provided themed summer story time classes for Camp Beechtree locations at Roberts and Candlebrook Elementary schools on July 15, 2015.

Susan Kirkpatrick provided a special superhero story time for eight children ages five and under on July 20, 2015.

Library Board member Janet Medrow and her therapy greyhound dogs, Star & Brandy offered Read to the Dog services to children in kindergarten through second grade on Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m.-12 during the entire month of July and the first week in August.

Twelve students in 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade attended the science of superheroes workshop and learned about gravity and flight on July 24, 2015. Laura Arnhold shared selections from the book, Melvin Beederman: the Curse of the Bologna Sandwich by Greg

Trine.

The summer's final Jeopardy Championship was filmed on August 3, 2015. Becky Ginther served as this year's host. The top three scorers from the weekly Jeopardy Competitions competed against each other in the final Jeopardy round. Eighth grader, Lindsey Davis trounced her competition with 690 points. Maha Vijayakrishnan came in second with 450 points followed by Trish Smith with a third place finish of 260 points. Semifinalists Mahitha Penmesta, Niru Vijayakrishnan, Caitlin Cunnane and Diya Das acted as scorekeepers.

Ten 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in book discussion and extension activities around the book, Fortunately, the Milk by Neil Gaiman with Laura Arnhold on August 5, 2015.

Different weekly theme related book collections were displayed on the large display table during July. Theses included a Mythology display put together by Kristine Pennese, Community Helpers by Susan Kirkpatrick, Real Life Super Heroes by Linda Shust, and Super Books assembled by Melissa Kraus. Other book displays focused on dogs, summertime, brothers and sisters and the holidays of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Ramadan.

The Summer Story Hour session for children from birth to six ended the week of July 30, 2015. Registration for the fall story hour session begins the week of September 14, 2015.

#### **Report From Carole Kenney-Supervisor Liaison**

Carole updated the board on various township activities

#### **Upcoming events**

September 14, 2015 Library Board Meeting and Library Friend of the Year 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Duris, Secretary