

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

September 13, 2015 6:00p.m.-7:45p.m.

Attendees:

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

Minutes:

Minutes were approved from the August 10, 2015 meeting.

Library Friend of the Year:

Aleta Duey was honored as our Library Friend of the year this year.

Adult Services and Directors Comments:

- Summer reading for adults and teens ended on August 31, 2015 with 151 readers participating.
- Interview basics with Less Segarnick was attended by 22 people on August 4, 2015. Less will return in January 2016 to repeat this well-received program.
- Gina Gormley, enthusiastic library user, discussed "Eating Clean," which covered healthy eating topics. Gina will be back by popular demand on October 21, 2015 at 7 p.m. to repeat this August 5, 2015 program.
- Reverend Ronald Popivchak discussed "Historical Challenges" on August 10, 2015 and signed copies of his book, Bishop For A Day.
- A program of musical rhythm was presented by Craig Harris on August 17, 2015. As a musician and a writer, Craig has covered the Philadelphia Folk Festival for more than four decades.
- Tech nights were held at the Senior Center on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 and at the library on August 31, 2015. Youth volunteers helped adults learn how to effectively use e-readers to download e-books and magazines.
- Adam Benforado, Drexel University law professor, will discuss his acclaimed book, Unfair: The New Science of Criminal Injustice on September 9, 2015 at 7 p.m.
- College Finance Workshop will be held on Monday September 21, 2015 at 7 p.m. The presenters from Clarifi will discuss how to finance college while remaining debt free.
- Teen Advisory Group will discuss the book The Martian, by Andy Weir on September 23, 2015 at 12:30 p.m.
- What to Do When a Spouse or Loved One Passes is a workshop that will be presented by Adam Pelzman, local financial consultant on September 24, 2015 at

7p.m.

- The fall book discussion series-"Living on the Edge" will begin on Sunday, September 27, 2015.
- Tech Night will be on September 28, 2015 at 7 p.m.
- Library display: Lien Sardines loaned some of her beautiful pottery.
- Book Chat: Adventures Along the Jersey Shore, by Dave Hart and John Calu. The authors will be at UMGA-TV for a taped interview on September 23, 2015.

Children's Services:

- U-Can-B-U as part of the requirements for a scouting award, Priyal Gupta, an Upper Merion High School student partnered with the library to coordinate a series of confidence and life skills building workshops for middle school girls.
- Maggie Caverly, a retired school librarian from Roberts Elementary School provided literacy outreach as a volunteer to the children participating in Bridgeport's summer Recreation Program.
- Eighty-two Extended Day Camp students made weekly visits with their camp classes to the library to select books to read during free time at camp. Fifty-two campers who didn't previously have library cards registered for them.
- The library's summer reading program ended August 28, 2015. Participation was very high this year for all ages and the circulation of materials in the Children's Department continued to increase from previous years. Eleven hundred and two elementary and middle school children registered for summer reading and reported reading 21,369 books. The number of participants from last year increased by 33. Forty-six young adults and 105 adults read books and entered the summer reading raffles for prizes. These figures also increased from the previous year. The library offered a total of 313 programs for summer readers of all ages during the months of June, July, and August.
- Laura Arnhold met with 10 third and fourth graders on August 6, 2015 to discuss the book, Fortunately the Milk by Neil Gaiman for Wacky Wednesday's Book Discussion.
- Twenty children attended a special program celebrating their completion of the 1,000 books before kindergarten challenge this year.
- Singing duo, Two of a Kind presented a concert for thirty-five summer readers on August 4, 2015.
- Over 150 people attended the library's culminating special event of the summer on August 12, 2015, the Super Hero Academy.
- Prizes for the Summer Reading Challenge, the Shredded Book Challenge and the Life Saver candy guess were announced at Super Hero Academy night on August 12, 2015.

- Fifteen entries were submitted for the 7th Annual Edible Book Contest. Participants were asked to use edible ingredients to create a representation of their favorite book or book character. Each of these entries submitted received a descriptive superlative and four entries were selected for special gift card prizes.

The following participants were winners:

- First place-Declan, Connor, Poppy Pennese & Emily Smith for their recreation of the book, I'm the Biggest Thing in the Ocean
- Second place-Mannat Bakshi for her Very Hungry Caterpillar creation
- Third place-Matt, Sam & Jack Foster for their rendition of The Giving Tree
- Honorable Mention-Sam, Rebecca & Anya Montich-Dinosaur Roar
- Honorable Mention-Maha Krishnan-The Graveyard Book
- Twelve people attended the library's movie matinee showing of The Incredibles on August 26, 2015.
- Ten middle school kids participated with Miss Laura in a library scavenger hunt on August 31, 2015 designed by Chris Grabenstein, the author of Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's library.

There were 69 entries in this summer's Art Contest. The children were given a shield drawing as a canvas for creativity. All entries are hanging from the ceiling in the children's department. Winners were selected in three different age groups as follows:

Grades K-1

- 1st place-Joseph Blando
- 2nd place-Liam Vanderslice
- 3rd place-Mikaella Canete

Grades 2-4

- 1st place-David Rendon
- 2nd place-Poppy Pennese
- 3rd place-Connor Pennese

Grades 5-8

- 1st place-Diya Das
- 2nd place-Declan Pennese
- 3rd place-Maha Krishnan

- Professor Bob from Hands on Science focused on Ice Man and his ice making abilities to explain the properties of water and nitrogen for the library's last science workshop for children in 2nd-4th grade on August 28, 2015.

- During the summer, different collections of materials are displayed each week. Sue Kirkpatrick showcased books related to Community Helpers, Linda Shust highlighted the library's materials on real life super heroes, Melissa Kraus focused on award winning books and Diane Shatzman featured books in comic book format from all areas of the collection. At the end of the month, Laura Arnhold and Stephanie Spangler created a back to school themed display. In addition, there were special displays on butterflies, and super heroes during August.
- On August 24, 2015, Middle School students will participate in a Scavenger Hunt similar to one mentioned in the book, Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein. Members of this group will have the opportunity to Skype with Chris Grabenstein on September 23, 2015.

Report From Carole Kenney-Supervisor Liaison

- Carole updated the board on various township activities

Upcoming events

- October 12, 2015 Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- November 8, 2015 Citizens Board Appreciation Lunch at Maggiano's 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon Duris, Secretary