

**Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting**  
June 13, 2016 6:45p.m.-7:55p.m.

**Attendees:**

Jonathan Black, David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Katie Kohler, Janet Medrow, Linda Noll, Tracy Pasquale, Dave Kraynik-Township Manager, Sally Slook-Assistant Township Manager, Carole Keeney-Township Liaison, Karl Helicher-Library Director

**Minutes:**

Minutes were approved from the May 9, 2016 meeting,

**New Library Director Progress Report**

- Dave Kraynik and Sally Slook updated the board on the progress of hiring a new Library Director when Karl Helicher retires and answered questions the board had.

**Adult Services and Director's Comments:**

- Mommy & Me Zumba was well attended by 50 (25 moms and 25 kids), and there were a few dads as well. The kids enjoyed dancing and the adults got their part of workout.
- Mommy & Me Card Making class was attended by 30. The presenter provided all the materials with simple instructions; the children enjoyed making cards for Mother's Day. We will be inviting the presenter Ms. Sheetal again in December for a Holliday Card making class.
- 14 adults (8 regulars and 6 new patrons) attended coloring Night. The next program is June 13, 2016 at 7 p.m.
- The five part-part sparing book discussion, "Love & Survival in the Past, Present, and Future," ended on Sunday May 15, 2016, with Dr. Erin Hurt leading a group discussion on Amit Majmudar's Partitions. The fall series, which will begin in September, is in the planning stages.
- Yoga with Kamini is gaining popularity; twenty-three adults participated on May 16, 2016. We will not have yoga sessions during the summer and will resume in September.
- MCGOPA Art Show on May 21, 2016 was a huge success, attended by 225 adults and 50 children. Three workshops sponsored and conducted by MCGOPA were very informative, and twenty-four children created their own storybooks in the youth workshop. An art showcase in Freedom Hall ran for the entire day, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Other Free activities included the always-popular face painting. Melanie Eberhard (park & rec piano teacher) performed during the reception from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Overall, this was a successful event that the library plans to offer every other year.
- Our June Tech Night was a full house with 10 attendees and 9 youth volunteers. We have two new high school volunteers who joined the team.
- Writers Workshop on Tuesday May 31, 2016 was conducted by UMASD teachers Mrs. Durland & Mrs. Bontempo. 15 high school students attended.
- Read, Register, Review!! Summer Reading for all ages starts on June 20, 2016. Free Kona Ice for everyone (adults too) who registers for summer reading program on June 20, 2016 for 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (rear parking lot of the township building). The Adult & Teen Registration table will be set up at the parking lot too. The online link will be posted soon to

our website, which will be accessible from June 20, 2016.

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

- The six-week spring story hour sessions ended the week of May 2, 2016. Registration for the Summer Story Hour begins the week of June 6, 2016. The evening Pajama Story time class, the Preschool and parachute story time classes will not be offered during summer but will return again in the fall.
- Spring Play on May 3, 2016, high school senior, Sarah Kirkpatrick student directed members of the Junior Friends Volunteer group in the library's annual spring play. Sarah selected the plays, led rehearsals, and handled costuming and props as part of her requirements for a senior graduation project. Laura Arnhold served as Sarah's advisor on this project. The evening's presentation of three fractured fairy tales drew an audience of 100 children and family members. The show was filmed by UMGA-TV and will be shown at a later date.
- On May 7, 2016, the library held an awards ceremony for the students who earned reading medals but attended schools outside of Upper Merion. Eleven medal winners and seventeen family members were on hand for the presentation of medals and certificates in Freedom Hall and stayed for cookies and lemonade afterwards.
- The library received two Board of Community Assistance Grants this year; \$2,300 was awarded to pay for Summer Reading medals and \$830 for Book Contest Awards. In addition, high school seniors, Sarah Kirkpatrick (\$2,000) and Nithisha Guntamadugu (\$1,000) were awarded BCA grants to help the library with special summer programming in the Children's Department.
- During the month of May, registrations were taken for the Science in the summer classes sponsored by GSK in partnership with the Franklin Institute. This summer's participants will receive an introduction to physical science and electricity. Sixty-four participants were chosen on a first come first serve basis for these free hands-on science classes. The classes are full with waiting lists. The library will host both afternoon and morning classes for children entering 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade on July 11-14, 2016.
- There were 11 children and nine adults who participated in the library's block party with Susan Kirkpatrick on May 23, 2016. Participants heard a story and used the library's new giant sized wooden blocks to create their own structures.
- Twenty middle school students attended the Junior Friend's end of the year party on May 16, 2016. Participants made ice cream sundaes, played games, danced and created get-well cards for a group member who was injured in sports. Graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were invited to join the library's Teen Advisory Group (TAG) as well as to attend the upcoming author visit with Margo Rabb on July 6, 2016.
- On May 13, 2016 Jeanne Kaufman and Laura Arnhold visited Candlebrook to award summer reading medals to the morning and afternoon kindergarten students in a special assembly. There were 70 kindergartners in attendance. Jeanne and Laura also visited Bridgeport, Roberts, Candlebrook, Caley, Mother Theresa Regional Catholic School and Upper Merion Middle School during May to award reading medals and preview this summer's reading club in assemblies at each school. The Upper Merion Middle School visit included an after school recognition party co-hosted by the middle school librarians. Close to 100 middle school students stayed after school for games, bingo and refreshments. Pre-registration for the 2016

summer reading club has already begun. This year summer reading participants can register and log reading online.

- Seventeen children in 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade and ten children in K & 1<sup>st</sup> grade attended Fun Friday and Fun Friday Jr. with Miss Laura on May 13, 2016 for an Elephant Party. Laura shared elephant themed stories, made elephant toothpaste, and played elephant trunk games. Participants created their own elephant projects to take home using a CD with a party blower as the trunk.
- On May 17, 2016, Sue Kirkpatrick presented a space themed S.T.E.M. story activity class for children ages 3½ to 6. These classes use hands on activities, songs and stories to teach kids about science concepts. The kids learned about movement of planets by swirling a marble in an empty water bottle, and made their own constellations using black paper, white crayons and star stickers. Twenty-seven registered students in addition to 30 adults and 8 younger siblings attended Miss Sue's class. Participants were given take-home color and activity sheets to extend the learning at home.
- On May 25, 2016, Sue Kirkpatrick reprised her spaced themed S.T.E.M. story and activity class with 24 preschoolers, 5 younger siblings and 29 adults from Upper Merion Baptist Nursery School.
- Susan Kirkpatrick coordinated the library's Reading Buddies Celebration on May 23, 2016 for participants in this year's Reading Buddies Program. Close to 250 students and parents were on hand to honor this year's reading buddies. Participants received recognition certificates, and either a Pertrucci's water ice coupon or book sale book. Dunkin Donuts provided donuts, frostings and jimmies of all kinds and sponsored a donut decorating contest. Janal Patel and other managers from Dunkin Donuts selected two winners, Eric Green and Yaseena Alli whose donuts will be replicated and available at the King of Prussia Dunkin Donuts during the summer. Sixty-one pairs of reading buddies are currently meeting weekly at the library for reading practice.
- BJ Miragila focused on Mother Goose rhymes and songs for two special story times scheduled on June 1 and June 2, 2016. More than forty children and parents attended each story time.
- The children's department is gearing up for the Summer Reading Program which starts on June 20, 2016. Students in kindergarten through eighth grade may register for the program to earn stickers, food coupons, reading medals and small prizes for reading whatever books interest them. The library's kick-off program on June 22, 2016 will feature Eric Dasher's hilarious trivia game show.
- Travel the World Books was the theme of the large table display put together by Becky Ginther and Laura Arnhold. Rina Das featured Marvelous Monster book on the small table display. Other special displays highlighted holiday books for Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Eastern Orthodox Easter and Memorial Day. Books on the lowly worm and gardening were also displayed.

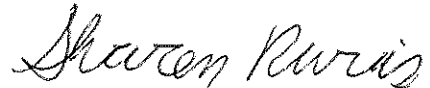
**Report from Carole Keeney-Township Liaison:**

- Carole updated the board on various township activities.

**Upcoming Events:**

- No July 2016 Board Meeting
- August 8, 2016 Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- October 10, 2016 Library Friend of the Year Presentation to Dr. John Egan before Library Board Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Sharon Duris, Secretary