

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

November 11, 2019, 6:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.

Attendees: David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Linda Noll, Tracey Pasquale, Fauzia Shamim, Laura Arnhold-Library Director, Laura MacBride-Library Intern

Unable to Attend: Beth Nachman, Janet Medrow, Carole Keeney-Township Liaison

Minutes: Minutes were approved from the October 7, 2019 meeting.

Adult Services and Directors Comments:

- Coloring Night for adults is scheduled for the 2nd Monday of every month.
- ESL classes meet on Tuesdays. Mrs. Olexy teaches the class and Ms. Nalini assists.
- Adult Game Night is scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of every month.
- Jazz Night on Friday, October 11, 2019 was a great success.
- Vinyasa Yoga at the Community Center on Monday, September 23, was attended by our patrons who were not community center members.
- SAT Practice Test co-sponsored by Princeton Review on Saturday, October 19, 2019 was attended by 23 high school students from Upper Merion and neighboring townships.
- Mental Health Panel talk on Sunday October 20, 2019 co-sponsored by NAMI Maim Line PA. It was an excellent educational presentation with first-person accounts by people in recovery from struggles with mental illness.
- Weight Loss Seminar in Monday, October 21, 2019 presented by Dr. Steve Fleisher was well attended.
- Knit Nite was attended by many knitters.
- Senior Center Computer Class on Wednesday, October 16 and 30, 2019 taught by Sangeetha focused on different browsers, how to download, install and run.
- The display case in the atrium celebrated National Women's Business Week while the case inside the library showcased the beautiful artwork of library staff member, Meera Alve.
- The display table in front of the Reference office promoted the library's Jazz Night featuring books and jazz CD's for the first part of the month and is now highlighting the Indian festival of Diwali which will be celebrated in November 4, 2019.

Children's Services:

- The six week fall story hour began the week of September 23, 2019 and ended November 1, 2019.
- The Junior Friends Group of twenty-two students met October 7, 2019.
- Twenty-four students received acting roles and six students participated in the stage crew for this years Enchanted Library. Community member, Rich Andrews from The Inventors of America partnered with the library on an Inventors' Fair that took place in freedom hall on October 12, 2019.
- Villanova Physics professor, Scott Dietrich provided a hands-on smartphone physics class on October 12, 2019.
- The library has begun offering a monthly Chess Club on the second Monday of the month for Chess enthusiasts, ages six and up.
- The library partnered with Christine Roy from Hands & Voices Guide by Your Side of PA on a Signed Story time on October 19, 2019.
- Sixteen children in 3rd-6th grade participated in Passport Pals with Becky Ginther on October 21, 2019 with a focus on Germany.
- Sue Kirkpatrick coordinated October visits to the 18 local preschools and childcare facilities involved in the library's outreach program.
- Therapists from the Montgomery Intermediate Unit work with preschool children with special needs at the library to teach them the necessary skills for behaving appropriately in a public place.
- Reading Buddy coordinator, Susan Kirkpatrick pairs emerging readers in K-2nd grade with older students in 5th-12th grade for reading practice.

- Laura Arnhold manned an information table at the Upper Merion Baptist Nursery School Fall Fair on October 31, 2019 to meet the Nursery School families and introduce them to the services and resources available to them at the library.
- Library staff members Rina Das and Sangeetha Srinivasan coordinated special programs for various age groups on November 4th, 2019 for a cultural celebration of Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights.
- The library is offering a four week Fall Parent/Child workshop series on Fridays in November for children ages 1 to 3 and their parent or caregiver.
- The library is offering 4 Play Workshops on Mondays during November to allow parents to come play with the library in the colder weather to play with the library's toys in Freedom Hall.
- Meera Alve, showcased Origami and the library's paper craft books on the large display table. There were also holiday book displays during October featuring books on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kipper, Christopher Columbus, Halloween and the Day of the Dead. Rina Das created a small table display highlighting books on Indian culture in anticipation of this year's Diwali festival. A small display focused on squirrels.

Old Business:

- Feasibility Study Update
- Food for Fines-research study results
- Hispanic & Latinx Heritage Week-November 18-22
- Staff Survey

New Business:

- How do we share our resources and services with the community? What avenues can we use to promote the library?

Upcoming Events:

- December 9, 2019 Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- January 13, 2020 Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.-Reorganization Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Duris, Secretary