

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

November 9, 2020 6:45 P.M.-7:40 P.M.

Attendees: David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Janet Medrow, Beth Nachman, Linda Noll, Tracey Pasquale, Laura Arnhold-Library Director, Carole Keeney-Township Liaison

Unable to Attend: Fauzia Shamim

Minutes: Minutes were approved from the October 12, 2020 meeting.

Adult Services and Directors Comments:

- We opened to the public for four hours on Saturdays beginning Saturday October 17, 2020.
- Due to vacant positions before we closed in March and because some staff decided not to return when we re-opened in the fall, we are currently looking at 12 part-time vacancies. We also have Mary's position that is vacant, and Jeanne Kauffman has announced she will be retiring in early January leaving that position vacant as well.
- Our high school pages were brought back to work in October and are helping to alleviate the shelving materials from the rest of the staff.
- We resumed our adult and teen programs virtual from October.
- Thanks to Princeton Review for co-sponsoring virtual **SAT, ACT and Admissions in the Time of COVID** on Tuesday, October 6, 2020.
- We kicked off our first ever virtual **Financial Series** for the year on Tuesday October 6, 2020.
- **Fall Book Discussion** series had their first virtual meeting on Sunday, October 11, 2020.
- Second part of the financial series on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 focused on planning & budgeting.
- **Fall Book Discussion #2** was virtually held on Sunday, October 25, 2020.
- **SAT/ACT Information and Strategy Session** on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 focused on the differences between ACT and SAT and if colleges have a preference.

Children's Services:

- The Children's Department focused on Dinosaurs in October with a large book display at the front table.
- Becky Ginther led a book discussion the first book of the extremely popular Wings of Fire book series, The Dragon Prophecy by Tui Sutherland on October 12, 2020.
- The library has begun offering popular bi-weekly Zoom story times on Fridays.
- For Halloween, the library offered two special events. On October 27, 2020 local preschool teacher, Svetlana Gazman presented a Zoom evening class focusing on classical music with spooky imagery for children ages 4-7. On Halloween day, Jeff Hunsicker shared Halloween stories, a flannel board activity and festive music with 35 children and 31 adults.
- Becky Ginther coordinated a family trivia game featuring questions about famous villains in Children's Literature.
- In addition to the dinosaur display created by Sue Kirkpatrick, there were also holiday book displays during October featuring books on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kipper, Christopher Columbus,

Halloween, and Day of the Dead. There was a large display of new books and a small display highlighting books with squirrels as the main characters.

Old Business:

- Staffing update

New Business:

- Library usage
- Budget

Supervisor Liaison Report:

- Carole updated the board on various township activities.

Upcoming Events:

- December 14, 2020 Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- January 11, 2021 Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.-Reorganization Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Duris, Secretary