

Upper Merion Township Library Board

March 13, 2023, 6:45 pm-7:45 pm

Attendees: David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Janette Heil, Beth Nachman, Linda Noll, Fauzia Shamim, Laura Arnhold-Library Director, Carole Keeney-Township Liaison

Minutes: Minutes were approved from the February 13, 2023, library board meeting.

Adult Services and Directors Comments:

- Upper Merion Township Library and friend of Black History were beyond proud and excited to celebrate the 24th Annual Black History themed “**Back to Africa**” throughout the month of February.
- Meditation workshop run by the volunteers from FalunDafa.org will be held the second Tuesday of every month at 6 pm in the Valley Forge room.
- Our passport service is going great.
- If you own an iPad or an iPhone, but are having trouble using it? Planning on buying, but the latest technology troubling you? Ms. Sangeetha will be here at the library the first Monday of the month from 6 pm to 7:30 pm for a 20 minute one on one session. No appointments needed, feel free to walk in.
- Sangeetha will be teaching Basic Computer Class at UMSCC on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 11 am to 12 pm.
- Computer Basics Class for adults will be held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.
- ESL classes in-person continues to meet every Tuesday at 12 pm.
- Adult coloring and board game night is scheduled for the second Monday of every month from 6 pm to 8 pm.
- We are extremely fortunate to have Mrs. Lynne Williams-Executive Director of Philadelphia Area Great Careers Group present seminars for job seekers every month.
- Our patrons are always happy to gather to knit at the library.
- Ms. Barbara from UMT Library’s Black History Committee and her friend beautifully decorated both the display cases in February.
- The library display for the month of February featured “Places to Go” to celebrate Black History Month.

Children’s Services:

- Our popular chess club has continued meeting with our volunteer, Mr. Ethan, on Tuesday afternoons through the month of February.
- Intermediate chess players continued to meet with Mr. Ethan on Wednesday afternoons.
- On February 6, four middle schoolers joined Ms. Stephanie before Junior Friends to learn sign language.
- Nine middle schoolers joined Ms. Becky for our February Junior Friends meeting.

- Feelings -One of the most important things you can teach a child is how to name, communicate, and manage their various feelings.
- Infant story time was bittersweet as this was Ms. B. J.'s last session.
- We converted Freedom Hall into a life-size game board as three teams worked to solve whodunnit!
- On Friday, February 10th, Miss Becky hosted a Super Bowl story time.
- Thirty-three children and fifteen adults met on the afternoon of February 13th for our first official homeschoolers afternoon monthly event.
- Sixteen middle school students attended our second monthly session of Occupation Exploration, where they learn about a different career each month and do a fun related activity.
- Miss. Laura filled in for Miss. Sue to do a fun Valentine's Day story time all about LOVE.
- In Freedom Hall, Miss. Laura, and Miss. Sue co-hosted the 48th annual Write and Illustrate Your Own Book Contest Award ceremony to honor thirty winning authors this year and their families.
- On Wednesday evening, people of all ages were invited to visit the library between the hours of 6-7:30pm to learn all of what the library has to offer.
- On Thursday, February 16th, twenty-one kids ages 5-11 joined special guest Miss. Brittany on a day off from school to do basic yoga.
- Miss. Brittany also led an art activity after yoga, which was attended by twenty-four children.
- Over twenty families joined Ms. Stephanie in Freedom Hall for Open play.
- On Tuesday, February 21st, twenty-one families joined Ms. Stephanie to hear books about friendship.
- Eight middle school students joined Miss. Becky for some craft activities on February 22nd.
- A small, but very excited group of preschoolers stretched their way through story time with a couple of books about s-l-o-w animals and shared way to create poses that looked like a turtle, and a snail.
- In honor of Black History Month, the children's department hosted a story time highlighting Black authors, illustrators, and musicians.
- On Monday, February 27th at 6 pm, sixteen kids joined Ms. Stephanie in their jammies as we held story time at night.
- All About Teeth-twenty-eight children and twenty-two adults enjoyed a fun story time with Miss. Sue all about teeth (since February is national children's dentistry month)

Old Business:

- Joint Board Meeting Prep (April 20th 7:30 pm)
- Staff Training (February 20)
- Polaris Server Upgrade (February 27-March 1)

New Business:

- Library Board Member Resignation (Tracey Pasquale)
- Joint meeting of Citizens Board Chairs and Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Liaison Report:

- Carole updated the board on various township activities

Up Coming Events:

- March 13, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- April 10, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- April 20, 2023, Joint Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- May 8, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- June 12, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- July 10, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- August 14, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- September 11, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- October 9, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- November 13, 2023, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.
- December 11, 2023, Library Board Meeting
- January 8, 2024, Library Board Meeting-Reorganization Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Duris, Secretary