

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

May 8, 2023, 6:45 P.M.-8:10 P.M.

Attendees: David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Janette Heil, David Newman, Laura Arnhold-Library Director, Carole Keeney-Township Liaison

Unable to Attend: Beth Nachman, Linda Noll, Fauzia Shamim

Minutes: Minutes were approved from the April 10, 2023, meeting.

Adult Services and Director's Comments:

- Be Your Own Bank on Monday, April 3, presented by our very own John Crowley interested many of our patrons.
- Sprin Book Discussion on Sunday, April 30, was attended by our regulars.
- A huge shout out to instructor Dennis Shaub for conducting 6 weeks session to teach adults to play bridge.
- A recipe swap party inspired by Longwood Gardens Community Read program on April 3, was co-sponsored by Longwood Garden Community Reads.
- ACT and SAT Practice tests that were scheduled on May 8, 15, and 22, were well taken advantage of.
- Meditation Workshop run by the volunteers from FalunDafa.org will be held the second Tuesday of every month in the Valley Forge room.
- Our passport service is going great.
- If you own an iPad or an iPhone but have trouble using it? Ms. Sangeetha will be here at the library on the first Monday of the month from 6 pm to 7:30 pm for a 20-minute one-on-one session.
- Computer Basics Class for adults will go on a hiatus till the end of this year.
- ESL classes in-person continue 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 8pm.
- We are very 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.
- Our patron Kavitha decorated our display window with beautiful jewelry and paintings that she handmade.
- Anja Montich decorated our atrium display case for her Girl Scout Silver Project.
- Krissy and Megan are coming up with creative ways to decorate our adult display.

Children's Services:

- On April 1st Miss Becky shared some silly stories and songs with twenty-two children and twenty-five parents.
- For our April Junior Friends meeting, eleven middle school students joined Miss Becky to help with volunteer projects for the library.

- On Tuesday, April 4th, fifteen families joined Ms. Stephanie in the Little Theater for Passover Story Time.
- Miss Sue led two Easter themed story times.
- On Wednesday, April 5th, Ms. Stephanie held story time for the babies in the Little Theater.
- On a day that kids had off from school, we had 42 people attend our “open crafternoon” event.
- While on hiatus between chess lessons, we invited our elementary age kids to come in for a chess open play afternoon.
- As part of the PA One Book initiative, on April 11, and 13, Miss Sue led two bird themed story times.
- On April 12, Miss Sue led an interactive and upbeat Baby Story Time for thirty-eight people.
- Saturday story times are very popular with working parents who often come with both parents to story time.
- For the month of April, our Homeschooling students met to explore medieval history.
- This month’s Occupation Exploration featured a visitor from Longwood Gardens, who talked about their job in ticketing and IT, and answered questions about how she ended up working there (especially coming from an art and animation background!).
- On Tuesday, April 18th, twenty-four children joined Ms. Stephanie in the Little Theater to hear stories about rain.
- On April 19th, Miss Sue led an interactive and upbeat Baby Story Time for forty-nine people.
- Twenty enthusiastic middle school students met with Miss Becky to learn about how to make some easy snacks and treats.
- On April 20, Miss Sue celebrated Earth Day with the preschoolers at family story time.
- On Monday, April 24, twenty-two elementary aged kids came to the Little Theater to have a Lego Build night.
- On April 25, Miss Sue did a fun story time all about Frogs and Toads.
- On April 26, Miss Sue had forty-five people attended her Baby Story Time.
- On April 26th, Anja Montich presented a program for grades k-4 as part of her Girl Scout Silver Award project.
- Families greatly appreciate having the chance to get together during the rainy weather to play and bond.
- On Saturday April 29th, over twenty families joined Ms. Stephanie in the Little Theater for songs and stories about crazy chickens.

New Business:

- Update on County Book Challenge

New Business:

- Staff appreciation Day
- Memorial Weekend Hours
- Cleaned up Polaris patron accounts.
- Policy changes have been approved by the Board that resident must be a resident with a library card in Upper Merion Township.

Supervisor Liaison Report:

- Carole updated the board on various township activities.

Up Coming Events:

- 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