

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

September 11, 2023, 6:45 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

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

Unable to attend: Carole Keeney-Township Liaison

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

Adult Services and Director's Comments:

- Our youth volunteers are done cleaning the library.
- We are excited to continue our partnership with the Autism Society of Greater Philadelphia to host sessions for adults with disabilities.
- Public Speaking Class for adults kicked off successfully on August 2, 2023.
- Great Gardens of the Delaware Valley Virtual presentation on Monday, August 7, was a fantastic presentation that was very well attended.
- Our book discussion group will meet on the third Saturday of every month to discuss books of various genre.
- ACT practice test for high school students was held on Saturday, August 5.
- Meditation Workshop run by volunteers from FalunDafa.org will be held the second Tuesday of every month at 6pm 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 the first Monday of the month from 6pm to 7:30 pm for a 20-minute one-on-one session.
- Sangeetha will be teaching Tech one on one sessions at UMSCC the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 12 pm to 1pm.
- Ms. Sangeetha will offer Computer Basics Classes for ESL adults every Tuesday at 12 noon in August.
- Adult Coloring and board game night will go on a hiatus starting in September.
- 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.
- Adult book display for June, July, and August, will feature books based on our Summer Reading theme "All Together Now".
- The Metha family's young children decorated both atrium cases in August with their Lego structures.

Children's Services:

- August and Mrs. Vidal led our Read to the Dog sessions for 2 Mondays during the month of August.
- On Tuesday, August 1st, Miss. Sue held family story time for 53 people in the Little Theater.

- On Thursday, August 3rd, Miss. Sue led a fun Baby story time with fifty people in attendance.
- For the first two Fridays in August, we hosted pop-up chess sessions for small groups of children.
- Music and Movement, a very popular new class for preschool age kids where we incorporate music, dance, and instruments into a program that teaches not only rhythm, but gross motor skills, and early literacy skills too has been very popular.
- On Monday, August 7th, Ms. Stephanie held a fairy tale party with 15 kids in attendance.
- The 6 top scorers from our middle school Library Jeopardy games this summer were invited to compete in a final Library Jeopardy game on August 7th.
- For our end of summer celebration, we invited families from our community to put together displays and tables about their cultures and countries so we could take a “journey around the world” right here at the library.
- On August 14th, and 15th, the library hosted 6 ceremonies to present children with their medals for summer reading.
- On Friday, August 18th, and August 25th, 14 future kindergarteners joined Ms. Stephanie in the Little Theater for a fun kindergarten event.
- On Tuesday, August 22, 16 families joined Ms. Stephanie for Baby Signs.
- On Wednesday, August 23, 28 families participated in a fun Open Play session in Freedom Hall sponsored by the library.
- On Wednesday, August 23, 9 families joined Ms. Stephanie to celebrate their child accomplishing the goal of reading 1000 books before kindergarten.

Summer Reading:

- Recap

Old Business:

- ASL Interpreter Request
- Book Bans Legislation and Updates

New Business:

- 2024 Calendar-November’s Meeting
- 2024 Budget
- Emergency Weather Procedure
- PaLA Conference-October 1-4
- 24/7 Holds Lockers

Up Coming Events:

- September 21, 2023, Citizen Boards, Communities, Commissions & Authorities Appreciation Social, at Upper Merion Township Pool 5:00 p.m.-7:30 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 6:45 p.m.
- January 8, 2024, Library Board Meeting 6:45 p.m.-Reorganization Meeting

- November 11, 2024, Library Board Meeting-Cancelled Veteran's Day-Library Closed

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Duris, Secretary