

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

October 9, 2023, 6:45 P.M.-7:10 P.M.

Attendees: David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Janette Heil, David Newman, Beth Nachmen, Linda Noll, Laura Arnhold-Library Director, Carole Kenney-Township Liaison

Unable to Attend: Fauzia Shamim

Minutes: Minutes were approved from the September 11, 2023, meeting.

Adult Services and Director's Comments:

- We are excited to continue our partnership with Autism Society Greater Philadelphia to host sessions for adults with disabilities.
- Public speaking class will go on hiatus for a few months starting in October.
- Rain Garden Presentation on Monday, September 11 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.
- Digital PSAT Webinar sponsored by Tutor.com was very well attended by our high school patrons on September 13.
- A 3-part series on AI for teens was held on September 9, 16, and 30, and was attended by close to 50 teens each session.
- 3D printer demo on Monday, September 18, presented by our patron, Ms. Marissa, was fun and informative.
- Meditation workshop run by the volunteers from FaulnDafa.org will be held on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 pm in the Valley Forge room.
- Our passport service is going great.
- Tech Night is held on the first Monday of the month from 6 pm to 7:30 pm.
- Sangeetha will be teaching Tech one on one sessions at UMSCC on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 12 pm to 1 pm.
- ESL classes continue to meet every Tuesday at 12 pm.
- We are very fortunate to have Mrs. Lynne Williams-Executive Director of Philadelphia Area Great Careers Group present seminars to job seekers every month.
- Our patrons are always happy to gather to knit at the library.
- Adult Book Display was "Fall into something new!"
- Ms. Marie from our township decorated both the library and the atrium display cases in September.

Children's Services:

- 16 middle school students met for the first Junior Friends meeting of the year.
- On Tuesday, September 12, Miss Sue did a STEAM program on Body Science for 3–6-year-olds.
- August and Mrs. Vidal led our Read to the Dog session on September 12.
- On Wednesday, September 13, Ms. Stephanie had 20 families join her for Baby Signs.
- A BCA grant recipient hosted a weeklong Pre-K Ballet "camp" at the library.
- Our first Homeschool Afternoon of the school year had 19 people in attendance.
- On Monday, September 18, 12 families joined Ms. Stephanie and had a pajama party at PJ story time.
- On Tuesday, September 19, 20 kids and 25 adults attended family story time with Ms. Stephanie.

- Our popular chess club is back for another six-week session.
- Intermediate chess players meet with Mr. Ethan on Wednesdays to continue learning about the game of chess.
- For the month of September, our Passport Pals program for grades 2-4 met to “travel” to the country of Italy.
- On Thursday, September 21, Miss. Sue had 25 kids and 25 adults attend the first baby story time for fall.
- Several kids were excited to build Legos during an uninterrupted hour of free play.
- On Tuesday, September 26, Ms. Stephanie had 16 kids and 20 adults attend Family Story Time.
- This month’s Occupation Exploration for grades 5-8 had a guest speaker who works as a sales consultant for educational software.
- On Thursday, September 28, Miss. Sue had 25 kids and 24 adults attend baby Story Time.
- 8 students met to do some arts and crafts, where we made our own cork boards.
- On Saturday, September 30, Ms. Stephanie had 20 kids and 26 adults attend story time.

Old Business:

- PaLA Conference recap
- 2024 Budget

New Business:

- Hiring
- 2024 Circ Schedule
- November Reading Challenge

Supervisor Liaison Report:

- Carole updated the board on various township activities.

Up Coming Events:

- 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