

Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

November 13, 2023, 6:45 p.m.-7:50 p.m.

Attendees: Sharon Duris, Beth Nachman, David Newman, Fauzia Shamim, Laura Arnhold-Library Director, Carole Kenney-Township Liaison

Unable to Attend: David Bristowe, Janette Heil, Linda Noll

Minutes: Minutes were approved from the October 9, 2023, meeting.

Adult Services and Director's Comments:

- We are thrilled to extend our collaboration with Autism Society Greater Philadelphia to facilitate sessions tailored for adults with disabilities.
- Our book discussion group is scheduled to convene on the third Saturday of each month delving into literature across a wide spectrum of genres.
- On Thursday, October 5, The Princeton Review presented and co-sponsored a webinar addressing the common question of whether to take the **SAT, ACT, or both**.
- Join us for the monthly Meditation Workshop on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m.
- Our **passport service** has been running smoothly and efficiently.
- Join us at the library on the first Monday of every month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for Tech Night.
- Sangeetha will be instructing personalized one-on-one tech sessions at UMSCC on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month between 12 pm and 1pm.
- Our **ESL** classes persist in their regular meetings every Tuesday at 12 p.m.
- We are indeed privileged to host Mrs. Lynne Williams, the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Area Great Careers Group.
- Our library's knitting community is a source of joy for our patrons.
- A review of *New Discoveries from Ancient Egypt* by Dr. Steve on Monday, October 9, was very well attended.
- Scam fraud alert presentation on Thursday, October 26, was very well attended.
- Sharon Gross, a dedicated Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteer, delivered an informative presentation on the **Giardino dei Semplici** on Monday, October 30.
- Megan put together a terrifying wonderful display of books this month.
- In addition to our Once Upon a Crime display, we also challenged our Adult and Teen patrons to write the scariest story they could in only two sentences.
- Knit Nite friends decorated the inside and outside display case with their beautiful creations.
- The Atrium middle case was exclusively dedicated to the Historical Society, where they highlighted the Historical Cemeteries of Upper Merion.

Children's Services:

- Elementary School Craft Night on Monday, October 2, with Ms. Stephanie had over twenty children attend.

- On Tuesday, October 3, Ms. Stephanie had eighteen children and twenty adults attend her family story time.
- Our popular chess club continued to meet weekly through the month of October.
- Intermediate chess players meet with Mr. Ethan on Wednesday s to learn some chess strategies beyond the basics.
- On October 4th, 20 middle school students came for the first Stop-Motion Animation Workshop.
- On Thursday, October 5, Miss. Sue had twenty-four kids and twenty-one adults attended her Baby Story time with the theme Opposites.
- The Junior Friends spent their meeting helping to get the children’s department ready for fall.
- On Tuesday, October 10, Ms. Stephanie had twenty-seven kids and thirty adults attend Family Story Time with the theme of squirrels.
- August and Mrs. Vidal led our read to the Dog session in October.
- Twenty-one middle schoolers continued their work to create stop motion animation films.
- On Thursday, October 12, Miss. Sue had twenty-one kids and twenty-two adults attend her Baby Story Time with the theme of Shapes.
- Thirty-two people attended our Homeschool Afternoon program in October, where we did all things painting.
- On Monday, October 17, Ms. Stephanie had twenty-five children and twenty-eight adults attend Family Story time about Owls.
- For our last stop motion animation workshop, our twenty-one middle school students met again to edit and put together their films, so they had a finished product.
- On Thursday, October 19, Miss. Sue had twenty-four kids and twenty-two adults attend her Baby Story time with the concept theme of the Alphabet.
- Although it was a blustery day, we moved Music and Movement to the Township Gazebo while the building was closed for HVAC renovations.
- Twenty-one kids came to our Occupation Explorer program this month to learn about computer programing and software development.
- On Tuesday, October 24, Ms. Stephanie, along with twenty-four kids and twenty-six adults shared books about spiders.
- For the month of October our kids in grades 2-4 “traveled” to the country of Mexico to learn about Dia de Los Muertos.
- On Thursday, October 26, Miss. Sue had a packed house (33 kids and thirty-five adults) for her Halloween story time. With the birth-2-year-olds.
- On Monday, October 30, the library welcomed Ms. Svetlana to present a program called Carnival of the Animals to kindergarteners and first graders.
- On Tuesday, October 31, Miss. Sue had a fun Halloween themed story time for 2–5-year-olds.

Old Business:

- Staffing
- 2024 Budget

New Business:

- Scholastic Teachable

- Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles & Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Supervisor Liaison Report:

- Carole updated the board on various township activities.

Up Coming Events:

- 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