

# LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Upper Merion Township Building  
175 W. Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406  
March 11, 2024 Meeting at 6:45 PM

## MEETING MINUTES

- I. Attendance
  - a. Attending – Davie Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Laura Arnhold, Carole Kenney, Beth Nachman, Fauzia Shamin, Linda Noll
  - b. Unable to attend – Janette Heil, David Newman
  
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - a. February 12, 2024
  
- III. Comments from Chairperson
  - a. Next meeting date – April 8, 2024
  - b. Citizen Board Breakfast – Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30am – Linda will attend as Sharon cannot.
  - c. Joint Board Meeting – date will be determined and scheduled soon.
  
- IV. Reports and Discussions
  - a. Adult & YA Services – the Anna Morris Holstein reenactment was well attended.  
Upcoming events: Living Trusts and Estate Planning and a Roses program by a Master Gardener
  
  - b. Children’s Services – Middle school students filmed a commercial for the Summer Reading program which will be shared with the school district and on social media.  
  
Reading Rocks virtual program was attended by 80 people on a Saturday morning.  
  
Upcoming events: Middle school students are hosting a “cooking” class to make slushies.
  
  - c. Monthly Report – Although total circulation is down slightly, our numbers are still impressive.
  
  - d. Staff training was held on Monday, February 19th and was well received by staff.
  
  - e. Annual Joint Board Meeting – Presentation slides were assigned by Laura where all members will present, although Linda will be away for April dates.

- f. Supervisor Liaison Report
  - i. Assistant Township Manager is submitting a grant to continue moving forward with future plans for the building
  
- V. New Business
  - a. Laura recently attended the PA Office of Commonwealth Libraries forum. The regulations and codes need to be revised so that they “mesh.” The last update was written in 2012. Some qualifications may change based on county size rather than service area.
  
  - b. The local author policy has been updated because there have been a number of requests by local authors for programming! It was suggested authors might display their books at a fair so that all authors can be recognized equally. Local authors’ books currently can be donated and housed on a common local author shelf per the library’s policy.
  
  - c. The library will be closed on Good Friday, March 29.
  
  - d. Patrons are encouraged to come to the library on April 8 to view the solar eclipse. Glasses will be provided.

VI. Notes from Joint Meeting of the Citizen Board Chairs  
The breakfast for the Joint Meeting of the Citizen Board Chairs was held on Tuesday, March 19. The meeting began at 7:50. I attended because Sharon Duris, Library Board President, was unable to attend. The meeting was well attended and lively. We discussed expectations for Joint Meetings, as an opportunity to share the focus of each Board and to find out the answers to questions about what is going on in Upper Merion. It was agreed we will expand to two meetings yearly, one in the fall and one in the spring, to keep Boards aware of updates in the Comprehensive Plan.

Jarrett Lash, representing Planning and Community Development, via an informative PowerPoint presentation, showed how Upper Merion has changed over the years and what is envisioned for the future. Currently, UM has a population of approximately 35,000 residents, with double that amount of people traveling to and from the township daily for work, entertainment, and services.

The Farmers Market will begin its 15th season on May 19 at its new location at Nroview Farm. A community pavilion has been built for related events. The Board is looking for more farmers who want to share local produce as well as craft vendors. The importance of safety was emphasized, with lots of people walking and driving within the area. It was suggested we have a time in the fall when Boards could distribute handouts, explaining their goals, encouraging residents to join.

There was a discussion about a new procedure for sewage treatment. Supervisors recently visited Villanova which has the same model UM is considering.

Communicating with residents was addressed. In addition to the newsletter, what can we do to make people aware of all the resources UM has to offer?

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Noll, Secretary