Library Volunteer Leaders

March 23, 2022

Thank you, Kristen and Heidi for leading and taking notes!

Discussion Topics

**Question – Rebecca – public records request including volunteers?**

Idaho – criminalize library workers for providing harmful information to minors. Received public records request from New Jersey for staff, customers, and volunteers regarding discussion of the bill HB666 (https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/billbookmark/?yr=2022&bn=H0666) for a certain time period. Definition of volunteer records? Records retention laws? Defined state by state. The legal team contacted volunteers and asked for records of their communications.

Don’t use personal devices for work-related functions because your cell phone could potentially be subpoenaed and scrutinized under public records laws.

Maybe new – litigation will drive the future of how this plays out.

Also, was the Wi-Fi used the library’s? Even if staff/volunteer is using the personal device but library wifi.

We were talking about the Idaho bill a few weeks ago and this was an article our reference librarian shared about all the bills. https://pen.org/steep-rise-gag-orders-many-sloppily-drafted/

Includes museums – get in touch with them and see how they’re handling their volunteers regarding this issue?

**Getting ready to lose volunteer positions:**

Gardeners – included in landscaping contracts moving forward.

Toy cleaning – transition to board book cleaning?

How do you convey this news to volunteers, especially when you don’t agree? Offer alternatives in the community. Seed library, food bank gardens, community gardens, give the library a community garden plot, living plant wall or indoor plants,

We have the Mesa County Libraries Discovery Garden that is for demonstration and education. It is fully maintained by volunteers. Staff run programs with assistance from volunteers. We are not unionized.

Is it possible to reign in the volunteers? Partner with staff? Restructure?

**Is anyone using telehelp and using volunteers in that role?**

Pitching this for technical support – kiosk in the library? Have an appointment in the library. The volunteer role would be to assist with the kiosk and set up with digital support.

Lending model, privacy pod – kiosk, social services.

Tie in with a tech tutor?

MAVA Conference attendee feedback -

April 20 – presentations about what they’ve learned and what they’ve changed based on what they learned. Register on the Get Involved website – Link to register: <https://libraryiq.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvfuusqTsuH9fmRPKjC_2XrTCNEtygQMUL>

Treating differently – in house vs. Virtual staff/volunteers - article