

MDLIBTECH Meeting: September 12, 2017

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

10:02 AM

Online Attendees: Christopher Bailey, Jennifer Falkowski, Marianne Meador, Robert Palmer, Ray Reed, Adam Romanik, Sara Stephenson, Bill Vaughn

Group Operations

- Group's calendar follows fiscal year
- Meets first Tuesday (not following a holiday) of Sep. Dec. Mar. June
 - December 8 (MD TechConnect in lieu of meeting)
 - March 6
 - June 5 - will select new chair and secretary

Election of New Chair/Secretary

- Chair- Sara Stephenson
- Secretary- Ray Reed

MD Tech Connect 2017

- Save the Date has gone out
- December 8, 2017 at Universities at Shady Grove
 - List of hotels-- long drive for those coming from south, east, etc.
- Partners: MDLIBTECH, State Library, Priddy Library, MD SLA
- Similar format to last year-- affinity groups, speakers, tech expo

Future of Group Meetings

- Guest presentations, facilitated discussions about new topics? Doesn't always need to be the chair leading the discussion. Group liked the idea.
- At TechConnect, bulletin board where people can sign up to facilitate discussion on particular topics at future meetings

Professional Development Ideas

- Training needs? Information needs?
 - System Center x2
 - How are people getting the training they need?
 - Lynda.com, Udemy, online research
 - Jennifer: Succession planning, cross training?
 - Not much in Calvert, one person operation in St. Mary's, WordPress ticketing system in Harford allows for searching (WordPress forms), Google spreadsheets in Charles
 - Jennifer: How do we promote technology learning?
 - Digital Resource Challenges in St. Mary's
 - Web accessibility-- a little deeper than the "basic stuff"
 - VR?
 - Hot topic for front line staff

Google Expedition Kits

- Calvert has plans to use them

- Charles staff getting familiar with them, programs in Nov/Dec (Tour Around the World), with VR components for a breakout program (escape room)
- Harford: lots of programs scheduled for fall
- Whom do we reach out to for help with the Kits? Jennifer will find out, maybe Liz still?
- Not a lot of IT need, ready to go out of the box

Mobile Hotspots

- Harford- circulating T-Mobile hotspots for 7 days, 40 of them, over 200 holds
 - Devices were free, pay for service
- Southern MD grant proposal for purchase/circulating devices
- Obstacles with providers-- TechSoup is so much cheaper, but only Sprint
- Great demand because Comcast has raised their pricing so high for internet only. Now if your patrons have at least 2 children on reduced school lunches they can apply for Comcast 10Mbps for 9.99 but their qualifications makes it so you have to have not been a customer for the past 6 months and that does include the cable modem
 - <https://apply.internetessentials.com/>

Reminder

- Slack channel: <https://marylandlibraries.slack.com/messages/mdlibtech/>
- Preserves info for future searching

Future Meetings

- Online? Seems like less open discussion, but more convenient for people
- Maybe June meeting in person, March online
 - Using Blackboard, recording possible