

Technology Information Forum Meeting April 7, 2016 @ The Hampton Library

The meeting was called to order at 10:15am by Bob Johnson. The minutes from the March meeting were approved after a motion from Brian Lauther and seconded by Chris DeCristofaro. Kelly Harris and the Hampton Library were thanked for hosting the meeting. Chris then started a discussion about the history of libraries and the stereotype of what libraries are supposed to look like. Chris continued to speak on how those stereotypes and myths are changing. Digital services are now such a large part of the library that thinking of a librarian with a bun in his/her hair with glasses on a lanyard and wearing a shawl could not be further from the truth.

Bob discussed the concept of purchasing and implementing the technology that is made available at the library. But purchasing and rolling out the equipment is not the end of the involvement. Having a plan for the technology is key to success.

Nick Tanzi talked about not only the purchasing of hardware, rollout and planning but also programming. At Mastics Moriches Shirley Community Library, 3D printing by the public incurs a charge of 10¢ per gram. Any programming Nick conducts programming for free and that includes the 3D printed material.

Chris talked about developing a makerspace and what policies need to be in place for the various types of technology, along with patron supervision by staff.

There was a 20 Minute break

Bob returned everyone to the discussion and brought up training for that staff in any potential makerspace and anywhere for that matter. He gave a circumstance where a person was having difficulty with a toner cartridge that was not working properly. That person took out the toner cartridge and was banging it on the counter causing an eruption of toner. Simple training of staff regarding what to do when tech is not working properly is essential for smooth running equipment. IT professionals and librarians for that matter should be “Level I” tech help and trainers.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:14pm.

The next meeting will be May 12th at the Quogue Library. 9:30 for coffee and 10am for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris DeCristofaro