

Re: July 18th Dysconnected Library program

A Tibbs [REDACTED]

Tue 7/9/2024 6:29 PM

To: Mary Beth Harper <MaryBeth.Harper@elmlib.org>

Cc: Marcy Rodriguez <Marcy.Rodriguez@elmlib.org>; Bryan Blank <bryan.blank@elmlib.org>; EPL Board <eplboard@elmlib.org>

📎 1 attachments (237 KB)

Dysconnected Flyer2.jpg;

-EXTERNAL EMAIL-

Hi there,

I have seen their updated flyer and while they *did* add "not sponsored by EPL" in small font at the bottom of the page, the library's name is still very prominent in the center of the page and I really think to an undiscerning eye it continues to look like a library-sponsored event. I understand they followed the letter of your request and the meeting room usage rules, but they have certainly not followed the spirit and intention of it.

I remain dismayed that this program is being held at the library at all. Again, I believe libraries are a safe and inclusive space that we must protect. While I understand and believe in the right of all citizens to assemble, this feels like the library is providing a platform for an unnamed group to spread misinformation and hatred. This very much feels like the sort of event a library should distance itself from and affirm its commitment to inclusivity.

Thanks again,

Amy Tibbs

On Tue, Jul 9, 2024 at 12:12 PM A Tibbs [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Mary Beth,

Thank you so much for your prompt response to this and for reminding the meeting hosts of your policy. Are they also prohibited from having any sort of posters/signs/materials outside the meeting room? I really have concerns based on the nature of the group that posted this online that they are not opposed to "making statements" and prompting controversy in an effort to further their cause.

Libraries are so critical to our communities as safe and inclusive spaces now more than ever - and as they come under attack from those who would like to restrict access to information and resources for some of our most vulnerable neighbors, I really appreciate all that our local libraries have done to protect these things.

Thanks for all you do!

Amy Tibbs

On Tue, Jul 9, 2024 at 11:52 AM Mary Beth Harper <MaryBeth.Harper@elmlib.org> wrote:

Dear Ms. Tibbs,

Thank you for letting us know about this publicity. The Library's Policy on the Use of Meeting Rooms states that "All publicity [for an event or meeting hosted by a non-library group] must state that the Elmhurst Public Library is not a sponsor of the organization's program." I have reminded the patron who reserved the room for this event about our policy.

Best,

Mary Beth Harper

Director

marybeth.harper@elmlib.org

630-279-8696

From: A Tibbs <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 1:49 PM
To: Mary Beth Harper <MaryBeth.Harper@elmlib.org>; Marcy Rodriguez <Marcy.Rodriguez@elmlib.org>; Bryan Blank <bryan.blank@elmlib.org>; EPL Board <eplboard@elmlib.org>
Subject: July 18th Dysconnected Library program

-EXTERNAL EMAIL-

I am writing with concern that a flyer makes it appear that EPL is sponsoring an upcoming session about the "real story behind the transgender explosion" featuring a local detransitioner.

I absolutely understand that all parties in a community can (AND SHOULD!!) utilize the resources at their public library, including renting meeting rooms, but it is disappointing to see their flyer, in which the prominent, midpage placement of "Elmhurst Public Library" and its address certainly make it appear as though this is a library-sponsored event/program.

Is it possible to ask that the group update their flyer to both **state clearly that this is NOT a library sponsored program** and perhaps move the library's information from the focal point of the page to the bottom?

I'll note that the Facebook group that posted this flyer and encouraged its members to "get this on your calendars" is a group with many members who overlap in groups that encourage LGBTQIA book banning and supports parents challenging many books without reading it in our local and school libraries. I appreciate access to ALL information (including the viewpoint and experience of someone who detransitioned) but this is not a group with just, fair, or inclusive intentions and making it appear to be a Library program seems against what our libraries stand for.

Thank you for your consideration.

Amy Tibbs
[REDACTED]

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Re: Concern about a library sponsored event

Allie Gillies [REDACTED]

Tue 7/9/2024 2:06 PM

To: Mary Beth Harper <MaryBeth.Harper@elmlib.org>

-EXTERNAL EMAIL-

Thank you for the information. I truly appreciate it!!

Allie

On Tue, Jul 9, 2024, 11:54 AM Mary Beth Harper <MaryBeth.Harper@elmlib.org> wrote:

Dear Ms. Gillies,

Thank you for letting us know about this publicity. The Library's Policy on the Use of Meeting Rooms states that "All publicity [for an event or meeting hosted by a non-library group] must state that the Elmhurst Public Library is not a sponsor of the organization's program." I have reminded the patron who reserved the room for this event about our policy.

Best,

Mary Beth Harper

Director

marybeth.harper@elmlib.org

630-279-8696

From: Allie Gillies [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 1:19 PM

To: EPL Board <eplboard@elmlib.org>

Subject: Concern about a library sponsored event

-EXTERNAL EMAIL-

Hi there- I was sent this flyer and I am deeply troubled. I would assume that the EPL would NOT sponsor such an event but based on the image and they way the promoters are using your name it appears you are. So please by all means TELL The promoters to stop doing this. I know you cannot limit who uses the library but I do believe a hate filled group should not be allowed to use the EPL name in it's advertisement even if they chose to rent the large meeting room and the fact they are using your library is in bad taste but probably not against your policy- it's a public space- I get it.

Either way- please tell them to STOP using your name so prominently in the flyer as everyone that has seen it says "OMG the library is sponsoring this!" (attached is the image being shared publicly all over the place)

Thanks,

Allie Gillies

Parent of a Freshman at Elmhurst University

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.