

Abstract:

Leadership within an all volunteer organization presents unique challenges that one would not normally face in a professional leadership role. Each volunteer has a unique level of engagement, ownership, and commitment to the outcome. Maybe it's not all the unique afterall!

Outline for this article:

- 1) Rewards of volunteer leadership in an organization focused on youth character development
- 2) Challenges
 - a) Competing activities
 - b) Parents are over-subscribed
 - c) Everyone is welcome
- 3) Supporters
 - a) Guidance and resources from prior leadership
 - b) General support for the mission (School admins, public services)
 - i) Schools support recruiting
 - ii) Storage shed at GB
 - iii) Local school district, parks and facilities
 - iv) FBI, Police, Fire
 - v) Council
- 4) How to lead
 - a) Large projects are daunting - create lists of small manageable tasks
 - b) Delegate, verify, step back
- 5) Continuous development of succession plan
 - a) Identify potential leaders at every opportunity
 - b) Develop and engage new leaders
 - c) Constantly message succession planning
- 6) Conclusion