Chapter 3
Leader Volunteers and Their Perceptions, Involving the Greater Yellowstone Sights and Sounds Archive:
A Purposeful Project

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ABSTRACT

Leadership performance outcomes reflected existential phenomenological methods in an account of museum volunteer perceptions. Volunteers developed personal transformation leadership during the production of a museum digital collection, a purposeful project, creating an archive, a digital repository for video media, supporting mediated meaning, reflective thinking, and mindset coaching strategies. Evidence of leadership outcomes advanced museum education outreach for personal and community transformative social change. Continuous interactions included independent volunteers forming an interdependent working group and creating successful leader volunteers. The Buffalo Bill Center of the West housed the archive, as perceptions of leadership reported evolving leadership. The nature of perceptions involved thematic investigation, expanding potential for purpose, time, expertise, commitment, dedication, and collaboration in transformation leadership.

INTRODUCTION

In searching for broad audiences, how independent volunteers developed an interdependent, dynamic relationship, incorporating leader behaviors for accessing volunteer leadership style tips in their thinking began with a story. A friend once asked, "What do you do for your community?" Curiosity grew about volunteer opportunities, influencing transformative social change and leadership performance outcomes (Leadership Program Outcomes, 2016; Hunick, Glloway, Joyner, Owen, & Constantine, 2017; Kliewer & Priest, 2017; Priest & Kliewer, 2017; Sablonniere, Bourgeois, & Najih, 2013). As a result, a community project involved a world-renowned local, community museum. This evolved into data input of digital images and video for educator and future researcher reference. The purpose of the online video Archive included solving problems and making decisions for the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem environment which extended use beyond a collection of recordings. During the development and production of the Archive, leader volunteers created community-engaged leadership. Interactions included volunteers, forming an interdependent working group and creating successful leaders.

The Draper Natural History Museum at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West housed the finding guide and digital research tool - The Greater Yellowstone Sights and Sounds Archive: A New Tool for Wildlife Researchers and Educators. The nature of perceptions involved three leader volunteers, reporting ideas of leadership, as they cataloged video recordings of Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem wildlife, landscapes, and land and wildlife managers since 2000. The nature of observations involved thematic inquiry, expanding potential for purpose, time, expertise, commitment, dedication, and collaboration in a personal transformation leadership style. Integrated leader volunteer qualities, virtues and outcomes advanced, breaking down leadership experience into parts.

During interviews, the conversation about the leadership experience created understanding connections between experience and mediated meaning. Creating understanding and mediated meaning supported leadership. In an adaptive or transformative, or continuous figure-8 leadership style, leader volunteer interview perception descriptions included positive constructs, sometimes referred to as virtues, such as hope, resiliency, efficacy, optimism, happiness, and well-being (Kavelin-Popov, Popov, & Kavelin, 2007; Latham, 2013; Rozuel & Kakabadse, 2010; Uleman, Rim, Saribay, & Kressel, 2012; Whillans, 2016; Yammarino, Salas, Serban, & Shirreffs, 2012; Yukl, 2012). Working together, leader volunteers led ethical stances and recognized virtues of collaborative interactions.

Demonstrated leadership performance outcomes showed commitment and willingness to work for the good of others. A sense of virtue supported an ethical stance, thinking about how people relate to each other, and how personal transformative

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