

**Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project
General Meeting at the Roanoke Public Library
December 11, 2017**

4 people in attendance

AGENDA

6pm: Check-ins

6:05pm: ONGOING INITIATIVES

6:45pm: YEAR-THREE GOALS

7:00pm: Departure

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1) ARCHIVES

a. Physical Archives

i. No updates.

b. Digital Archives

i. We have uploaded all of *Blue Ridge Lambda Alliance Newsletter* (1981-1982) in the digital database. Beth has also uploaded all of vol. 1 of *Blue Ridge Lambda Press* (1983-1984). In the spring semester we will work on uploading *BRLP* through the remainder of the 1980s.

2) WALKING TOURS

a. Downtown Tour

i. JB leads their first tour this Sunday, Dec. 17.

b. OSW Tour

i. TK will lead her first tour on Sunday, Jan. 21.

c. GR needs to get all tour guides laminations and brochures.

3) LGBT LIBRARY

a. Grand Reopening event

i. January 11, 6pm-8pm @ RDC

1. Ideas from previous meetings...

a. Food/Drink

b. Readings from books (highlights from the collection)

c. Brief presentation on history of the library

d. Slideshow of interesting / risqué book covers?

2. Ideas this time...

a. Zine authors do a reading; we will distribute Zines at the event

b. Policies & Procedures

- i. The library volunteers met on Dec. 10 to brainstorm policies & procedures for the library, which will open to the public in January 2018. GR sent these notes to the RDC Board.
 - ii. GR will schedule an Open Hours training for RDC staff/volunteers the week of January 8th
 - iii. There's a new facebook group for library volunteers!
- 4) ORAL HISTORIES
 - a. Anonymous sex worker interview
 - i. Edits are done. The narrator has approved the edits. But we are still waiting on IRB approval to publish the interview. The new deadline is January 15, 2018.
 - b. Phase IV – QTPOC interviews (see “QPOC History” below)
- 5) 1980s EXHIBITION
 - a. Report back from Community Curation workshops
 - i. Small attendance at both Roanoke and Lynchburg workshops. GR typed up a cumulative list of feedback from the two workshops that we will use to guide future work on the exhibit.
 - b. Next steps – benchmarks
 - i. GR & BJ write exhibit slide text for 2 slides/week from January through April
 - ii. Schedule January 2018 Archives Research Night focused on trans evidence, 1980-1985
 - 1. How about Tuesday, January 9, 5:30pm – close?
 - iii. Schedule February 2018 Archives Research Night focused on POC evidence, 1980-1985
 - 1. How about Thursday, February 15, 5:30pm-close?
- 6) VIRGINIA COALITION ON LGBTIQ HISTORY
 - a. Dec. 1 “wish list” deadline... we missed the deadline.
 - b. Next steps
 - i. GR & BJ will work on developing the website in advance of the March 2018 meeting in Williamsburg
- 7) ARTS INITIATIVE PROJECTS
 - a. Zine – Issue 2
 - i. Great submissions this time; Issue 2 will be longer than Issue 1
 - ii. RB will organize a Zine-making party for next week
 - b. Historical Marker
 - i. Just submit the damn thing!
 - c. Community High School Lycee Days: Spring Class Idea
 - i. January 5th deadline for January 15th class.
 - ii. Maybe a writing workshop. RB will work on proposal.
 - d. Franklin Road Bridge Public Art Proposal
 - i. We are partnering once again with our friend Michael, a professor of art at Virginia Tech, on a queer history-themed proposal for the new Franklin Road bridge.
 - e. Theater collaboration with Hollins in January?

- i. There is some talk of a queer-history themed production during J-Term at Hollins. We have shared our archive with them as source material.

YEAR-THREE GOALS

1) QPOC HISTORY

- a. Southern Equality Fund – overview and next steps
 - i. QTPOC interns and advisory board met on Dec. 3 at Mill Mountain Coffee for a great, wide-ranging conversation and introductions
 - ii. The QTPOC interns will start on January 16th. We will meet every Tuesday, 6-8pm, at Roanoke College
 - iii. The Advisory Board will start on January 18th. We will meet one Thursday every month, at Mill Mountain in downtown Roanoke.
 - iv. Next steps: GR is finalizing a schedule for the interns.

2) HIV/AIDS HISTORY / ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

- a. World AIDS Day / AIDS Awareness Month event
 - i. JB will bring the posterboard thingy with names of AIDS organizations on it
 - ii. GR will bring the pamphlets that BJ made
 - iii. GR will facilitate the story circle
- b. Ongoing research / next steps
 - i. Reach out to Drop-In Center to get them to share historical information with us
 - ii. How to get HIV-positive people involved in this research/interpretation?
 - iii. Propose to do collaborative program with Drop-In Center for the public --- maybe something working with incarcerated people?

3) SOCIAL/FUN EVENTS

- a. Gay Bowling Night in Winter 2018
 - i. All-Gender Gay Bowling Date Night (a Valentine's Day event for queer/trans cuties)
 - ii. Cute pink handout with excerpts about LGBTQ people finding love through sports
 - iii. Schedule for early February
 - 1. In 1985 the Fellowship Bowling League met at Lee-Hi Lanes on Monday nights, 9pm – 11:30pm
 - 2. So how about we do our event on Monday, February 12, 9pm – 11pm @ Lee-Hi Lanes?

4) COLLABORATION

- a. Outreach to local high school & college GSAs

- i. RB has met with Cave Spring High School; and Community High School. Plan to reach out to Hollins and Virginia Western Community College.
 - b. Outreach / collaboration with local organizations
 - i. Drop-In Center – (We will reach out with some ideas listed above under “HIV/AIDS History”)
 - ii. Girls Rock Roanoke
 - 1. GR has reached out to LeeRay about the proposed 1980s concert / dance-off / fashion contest / newsletter distribution / traveling exhibit / 1980s anti-Falwell t-shirts / etc. thingy ☺
 - iii. The Park – do a History of Drag / Fashion show @ The Park, featuring different decades?
- 5) VISIBILITY
 - a. “Queer History Lives Here” QR code decals
 - i. Will wait for January meeting for updates from OM
- 6) MEMBERSHIP
 - a. Profile our volunteers on social media
 - i. We developed a structure of Q & A for these social media profiles. RB will take the lead in recruiting folks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, December 13, 6pm-8pm = AIDS history event @ The Park

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2pm-4pm = Downtown LGBTQ History Walking Tour

Week of Dec. 18-22 = Zine Issue 2 – construction party

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 5:30pm-7:30pm = Archives Research Night (trans histories) @ Virginia Room

Thursday, Jan. 11, 6pm-8pm = LGBT Library Grand Re-Opening @ Roanoke Diversity Center

Tuesday, Jan. 16 = QTPOC History Interns begin

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 5:30pm-7:30pm = Next General Meeting of the History Project @ Parrott Room, 2nd floor, Roanoke Public Library

Thursday, Jan. 18, 7pm = Black LGBTQ Advisory Board @ Mill Mountain Coffeehouse

Sunday, Jan. 21, 2pm-4pm = OSW Gayborhood Walking Tour

Thursday, Feb. 8, 7pm = Black LGBTQ Advisory Board @ Mill Mountain Coffeehouse

Monday, February 12, 9pm-11pm = All-Gender Gay Bowling Date Night @ Lee-Hi Lanes

Thursday, February 15, 5:30pm-7:30pm = Archives Research Night (POC history) @ Virginia Room

Sunday, February 18, 2pm-4pm = Downtown Roanoke LGBTQ History Walking Tour

Tuesday, February 20, 5:30pm-7:30pm = General Meeting of the History Project @ Parrott Room

Thursday, March 1, 7pm = Black LGBTQ Advisory Board @ Mill Mountain Coffeehouse

Sunday, March 18, 2pm-4pm = OSW Gayborhood Walking Tour

Tuesday, March 20, 5:30m-7:30pm = General Meeting of the History Project @ Parrott Room

Saturday, March 24 = Virginia Coalition on LGBTIQ History meets @ Williamsburg

Thursday, April 5, 7pm = Black LGBTQ Advisory Board @ Mill Mountain Coffeehouse

Tuesday, April 17, 5:30pm-7:30pm = General Meeting of the History Project @ Parrott Room

Sunday, April 22, 2pm-4pm = Downtown Roanoke LGBTQ History Walking Tour

Friday, April 27, 7pm-onward = Third Annual #MakeRoanokeQueerAgain Bar Crawl