

**Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project
General Meeting at the Roanoke Public Library
August 19, 2019**

4 people in attendance

AGENDA

5:30pm: Socializing

6pm: Meeting begins

7:30pm: Departure

- 1) SPECIAL GUEST: T from Neighborhood Services visited our meeting and spoke with us for the first thirty minutes about potential ideas for partnership between the City's office of Neighborhood Services and the History Project. We brainstormed a bunch of good ideas and vowed to continue the conversation moving forward.
- 2) ONGOING INITIATIVES
 - a. ARCHIVES
 - i. Update: TC is new high school volunteer who will be scanning in historic newspapers from our archives, c. 1990-1995, on a weekly basis; GSR's new research fellow at RC will do the other end of the process of uploading the scans into our digital archive. The goal is to complete digitization of all c. 1990-1995 newsletters by May 2020.
 - b. WALKING TOURS – training & fall schedule
 - i. SCHEDULE:
 1. July 7 – OSW = GSR had five guests
 2. August 25 – Downtown = GSR
 3. September 15 – OSW = OM – needs new brochures
 4. September 22 – Downtown = JB – needs new brochures
 5. October 20 – Downtown = LM
 6. November TBD – OSW = ND
 7. No December tour
 - ii. WEST STATION TOUR – proposed launch schedule
 1. Now: please review the walking tour script and give feedback and suggestions to GSR for revisions and editing
 2. Fall 2019: GSR will work with RC research fellow to assemble laminations for tour
 3. November 17, 2pm-4pm: Test-Run of West Station walking tour – solicit further feedback
 4. March 2020: tour launch
 5. Summer 2020: tour training for new and old guides
 - c. LGBT LIBRARY
 - i. VOLUNTEER: Join LGBT Library Volunteers FB group for updates. Right now there is no regular volunteer schedule.

- ii. TRANZMISSION PRISON PROJECT: NM brought up the idea of donating our extra copies of books in the library to the Tranzmission Prison Project, based in Asheville, NC, which coordinates getting LGBTQ-themed books to incarcerated LGBTQ people around the country. They particularly need cis gay male and trans-themed books.
 1. GSR will write up an open letter to the community announcing our intention to donate our overflow cis gay male (and any overflow trans) books to the Tranzmission project.
 2. Meanwhile, GSR will also create an Amazon wish list of the books that the Library team previously said we wanted to add to the library, and then encourage community members to purchase those books
 - d. ORAL HISTORIES
 - i. We need to recruit four new oral history narrators by the end of 2019 for scheduled February 2020 interviews...
- 3) YEAR-FOUR GOALS
- a. As the year comes to an end, in September, we are ready to retire these goals. What follows are the goals that will continue into the next year of our project...
 - b. The QTPOC Project
 - i. GG is now the leader of the project, but there really is no organization right now...
 - ii. We are working on promoting E. Patrick Johnson's visit to the area. Share on FB, and get ready for a printed flyer that should come shortly.
 - c. DECALS
 - i. Something is not working with our Decal distribution strategy. We discussed this, and decided that we will coordinate having the decals and the decal flyers at our October anniversary picnic event and ask all the volunteers to come to that event and pick up their decals and flyers and re-commit to approaching the businesses they said they would
 - d. ZINE, ISSUE FOUR
 - i. OM and K agreed in July to bottom-line work on Zine, Issue 4. No updates at this time. Something to put out there again at October party and recruit interest from volunteers.
 - e. Fourth Anniversary Celebration!
 - i. We have decided to ditch the CoLab visioning workshop model from years past and instead we'll do this...
 - ii. Potluck Picnic Party thingy at Wasena Park, Saturday, Oct. 5, 1:30pm.
 1. GSR will look into renting the shelter.
 2. Talk to T from Neighborhood Services about getting free Block Party materials for the event.

3. Instead of asking for new goals/mandates at this event, we will encourage folks instead to bring ideas for things that THEY themselves want to work on. That way, year five's labors will be oriented around things that volunteers actually want to do and will take ownership over!
- iii. GSR will host a facilitation strategy meeting on Monday, Sept. 30 for event facilitators, to make plans for how we will run the Oct. 5 event
- iv. We will also schedule a follow-up History Project meeting for Wed, Oct. 9 at the library (or another library space?) and encourage all Oct. 5 attendees, especially those who bring ideas and volunteer labor to the table, to come to this meeting to actually start working on those ideas

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 25, 2pm-3:30pm = LAUNCH of the newly revised Downtown Walking Tour!!!

September 8, 2pm-4pm = Next LGBTQ Book Club meeting, "Her Body and Other Parties" @ RDC

September 15, 2pm-4pm = OSW Walking Tour

September 22, 2pm-4pm = Downtown Walking Tour

September 30, 7pm = Facilitation Strategy meeting for Oct. 5 event organizers

October 2-3 = visit to Roanoke by Dr. E. Patrick Johnson, world-class leader in the field of Black Queer Studies. Lecture @ Roanoke College on Oct. 2, 7pm; performance @ The Spot on Kirk on Oct. 3, 7pm. COME OUT FOR THESE AWESOME EVENTS!!!

October 5, 1:30 – 4:30pm = Fourth Anniversary Picnic Celebration @ Wasena Park!!!! COME CELEBRATE FOUR YEARS!!!

October 9, 5:30pm-7:30pm = next History Project general meeting @ location TBD

October 20, 2pm-4pm = Downtown Walking Tour

November 17, 2pm-4pm = Test-Run of the new West Station Walking Tour