

Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project
General Interest Meeting at the Roanoke Public Library
May 16, 2022

Attendance: 5

Meeting Minutes:

1) ARCHIVES

- a) Reorganization of digital archive - GSR provided updates on website redesign
- b) Graduate intern, TL, began work this week
 - i) Comment: We'll benefit more from TL developing a framework for ongoing event programming, rather than putting on a one-off event that we can't replicate

2) ORAL HISTORIES

- a) Spring 2022 interviews are completed. Most of them will be published within the coming weeks.
- b) House of Expression oral history interviews - LM will reach out to PK to see if they are still interested in doing oral history training & conducting interviews in partnership with the History Project
 - i) If we apply for SEF grant again, LM and IF would help to rewrite the grant application, to help fund House of Expression training
- c) Casa Latina - IF will reach out to see if there are any LGBTQ Latinx folks interested in being interviewed

3) WALKING TOURS

- a) Make short videos of walking tour spots for social media promotion — KS
 - i) Update: KS's phone is not good for making TikToks
 - ii) IF' wife might be able to do videography. Can do video both of live tours (like a highlight reel) and with a star (KS) talking about a specific historic site
- b) How are the walking tours going?
 - i) Great numbers so far!
 - ii) We need to really promote the three Pride Month walking tours (GSR will make Instagram post)

4) LGBT LIBRARY

- a) Book club status? Seems defunct at the moment.
 - i) We decided to let it lay fallow this summer and revisit the book club in the fall
- b) Graduate intern, TL, began work this week

- i) Potential project ideas (copied from March meeting minutes): finish cataloging books; organizing more book drives/donations from the wish list; children's/YA programming; scanning archives at the Virginia Room

5) PRIDE 2022 PLANNING

- a) May 1 Pride in the Park: we did not participate
- b) September 'Southwest Virginia Pride' festival - let's check in with our partner organizations after the June Pride Picnic to see how others are feeling about the September event
- c) June Pride Picnic - updates
 - i) How to handle organizations that want to co-sponsor / have a table?
 - (1) This is a DIY event: you can bring a table and set up somewhere on the grounds, but you're on your own for set-up, clean-up, etc.
 - (2) Do they expect us to put their name / logo on flyers, online advertisement?
 - (a) Let's NOT allow for more sponsorships. Tables are okay, but not sponsorships.
 - ii) How to organize supplying of food, drink, set-up, clean-up, etc.?
 - (1) Send note to email thread asking each group for what they will contribute
 - (a) Food, drink, music, PA system / loud speaker, explain the literature table, 5:30pm set-up, people to clean up after dark

6) EVENTS

- a) How did the Bar Crawl go?
 - i) Rethink the stops next year: Martin's and their cover is bullshit; Front Row is fun! Golden Cactus is closed after 10pm. Consider Billy's and whether they were really comfortable with having us
- b) "Fun Home" at Mill Mountain Theater (June 22 - July 3) - KS
 - i) Will try to get the cast to go on one of our walking tours
 - ii) KS is organizing a lobby display / exhibit that will be up during the show
 - iii) KS will be organizing one or two talk backs after performances
 - iv) KS will be doing a historical write-up for the Playbill

7) NEXT MEETING

- a) Monday, June 27, 6pm @ Parrott Room. LM leads; KS co-leads.