

Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project
General Meeting
July 18th, 2017

Minutes

- 1) Check-ins (6pm)
- 2) QUICK UPDATES (6:05pm)
 - a. ARCHIVES: No updates
 - b. WALKING TOURS
 - i. Downtown tour: Date of August tour is TBA
 - ii. OSW tour: Tour is still set to debut in September
 - iii. New tour brochure: E.W. presented updated brochure & will send a copy to the listserv
 - c. LGBT LIBRARY: Technical issues resolved! Cataloguing work will continue on Thursdays from 4-7 PM. O.M. has submitted paperwork to be a keyholder at the Roanoke Diversity Center, so a longer cataloguing session/librathon may be possible in August
 - d. ORAL HISTORIES: No updates
- 3) COMMUNITY CURATION (6:25pm)
 - a. Planning for new digital exhibition. Here's a tentative title! "Finding Each Other: LGBT Community Organizing and Activism in Southwest Virginia, 1980-1989" :
 - i. Archives work will resume after summer
 - b. Plans for community workshop in summer or fall w/ Lynchburg folks?: We're thinking fall will work best - will contact the Lynchburg Diversity Center in August to get an idea of scheduling
- 4) GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION (6:30pm)
 - a. Lynchburg - As of most recent update, fall workshops will relate to methods/best practices for collecting/documenting oral histories
 - b. Blacksburg: Updates on May meeting held in Blacksburg. Possible issue with folks getting added to the listserv. Next steps?: Issue with listserv should be resolved
 - c. Rockbridge / Lexington: Info from KD about Lynchburg connects. Possible people to contact and collaborate with as we move forward?: This is still in the works
 - d. Statewide Queer History Mini-Con - June 24. GR and RB went with Andi and Isaac from LDC. Update from correspondences.: Groups spoke about several collaborative projects
 - i. Creating a joint WordPress for Virginia's LGBTQ+ history organizations to keep updated on initiatives/events
 - ii. Possibly creating a traveling queer history exhibition
 - iii. A future mini-con in Lynchburg in November of this year

5) DEMOGRAPHIC EXPANSION (6:40pm)

- a. New ideas: Working on networking via other organizations. : NM attended a recent soul sessions poetry slam & passed out zines. RB & OM may be able to attend the upcoming Black Lives Matter meeting
- b. RKE Events: RB met with Ariel Liev of RKE events in early July, discussed collaborating on LGBTQ section of Ariel's site to hopefully reach a wider audience, maybe writing periodicals for a publication Ariel is working on: RB spoke with her and will send her Facebook invites to our events going forward. RKE Events site may not be going live as soon as expected.

6) ARTS INITIATIVE (6:50pm)

- a. LGBTQ+ History Zine! (5 min.)
 - i. Updates: RW stopped by the meeting to pick up zines for distribution. Folks are already asking about submitting work for a future zine! Discussed winter release date for 2nd issue. We can print additional copies of the first issue for pride booth & start taking submissions for the winter issue at pride.
- b. "Living Trans History" Interactive Theater workshop (5 min.)
 - i. Plans for Fall 2017 and onward: Applying for grants with Southern Equality Fund or other orgs?: Discussed redirecting effort and applying for/using grant to hire intern(s) to collect oral histories to further demographic expansion efforts
- c. Historical Marker Campaign (5 min.)
 - i. This was discussed at the mini-con. Is there a site somewhere else in the state we should start this effort?
- d. Recreative / Performative Events (5 min.)
 - i. A day of "Gay Olympics" at local 4H Camp--when should we do this and who to contact?: OM will speak with JM about pricing/logistics
 - ii. Possible "Lesbian Softball" scrimmage in late July or early August: RB will scope out Oakies field to make sure it's not overcrowded during our planned timeframe

7) SUMMER / FALL PLANS (7:10pm)

- a. Queer History Dinner Party: OM will get available dates from the UU church. Should we do this after pride?
- b. Summer Strategy / Exec. Comm: Reach out to RB about ways to get involved: rmbarton@mail.roanoke.edu GR has updated the website to reflect summer contact changes.
- c. Plans for SEPTEMBER 2017:
 - i. PRIDE WEEK
 1. Third Annual History Forum @ The Park?: No word on this yet
 2. Pride in the Park booth: two days! Who wants to table? We need as many volunteers as possible.: RB, OM.
 - a. New literature to hand out?: New walking tour brochure, zines, brochure on Elmwood-specific queer history
 - b. New merch

- i. Replica 1971 GARV Lambda buttons?: Yes!!
 - ii. MRQA buttons?: Yes!!
 - iii. History Project logo buttons?: Buttons are cool! We like buttons! Maybe we can order them in bulk and get a few different designs?
 - c. Digital / physical exhibition
 - i. Human historical markers?: Do we have the personpower for that? Maybe we can do this with posters for now
 - ii. Design flyer/pamphlet with map of Elmwood Park queer history? Who can start doing this now?: RB & OM
 - iii. Cover over the existent Elmwood Park signs/maps with our own queer history versions? Who can start doing this now?:RB & OM
 - d. Other ideas?: Glitter! Also, MRQA beanies would be fantastic
- 3. Launch of OSW Gayborhood Walking Tour - Sun, Sep. 17!: We'll need to train any new tour guides before then
- 4. Second Anniversary Party / Year-Three Visioning Workshop - Wed, Sep. 20 @ CoLab? We need to reserve a space and make promotional materials to hand out at Pride!!: We still need to do this.

11) Departure (7:30pm)