

**Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project
General Meeting at the Roanoke Public Library
August 17, 2017**

7 people in attendance

AGENDA

6pm: Check-ins
6:05pm: SEPTEMBER 2017 EVENTS
6:30pm: QUICK UPDATES
6:45pm: COMMUNITY CURATION
6:55pm: GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION
7:05pm: DEMOGRAPHIC EXPANSION
7:15pm: ARTS INITIATIVE
7:30pm: Departure

SEPTEMBER 2017 EVENTS

- 1) PRIDE WEEK
 - a. Third Annual History Forum --- postponed until April 2018
 - b. Pride in the Park --- postponed until April 2018
 - i. We will request a refund of our registration (\$175) from Pride
 - c. We have decided that we will host a "Picnic in the Park" on Sunday, September 10, in Wasena Park, to recreate the original 1989 Picnic in the Park (the origin of Pride)
 - i. It will be a potluck. No alcohol allowed.
 - ii. We will invite the RDC, Pride, and other organizations to attend
 - iii. Let's print historic Pride memorabilia and other things to handout to attendees
- 2) LAUNCH OF OSW GAYBORHOOD WALKING TOUR – Sun, Sept. 17
 - a. Tour guide recruitment/training
 - i. We will schedule a training session for the OSW tour for interested tour guides the week of September 4-8, for either a weeknight (5:30 – dark) or a weekend, mid-afternoon. GR will send out a Doodle Poll.
 - ii. By holding the training the week of Sept. 4-8, that allows folks to take RB's Downtown walking tour on August 27 and feel it out before committing to the OSW tour training.
 - iii. GR will have to print up laminations and scripts for all those participating in the training
 - b. Status of tour script / laminations
 - i. Need to make Hugo's lamination
 - c. Status of new brochure --- everyone likes it

- i. We will hold a printing/folding/cutting/stamping/stapling party on Tuesday, August 22, 6pm @ the Bank building, 223 E. Main Street, Salem
 - 1. We'll be printing tour brochures, Zines, stamping Save the Dates, etc.
- 3) SECOND ANNIVERSARY PARTY / YEAR-THREE VISIONING WORKSHOP – Wed, Sept. 20 @ CoLab
 - a. Associated costs have now reached \$300 for all September events. DJ has contributed \$100. RB has contributed \$100. GR has contributed \$100.
 - b. We discussed creating a dedicated PayPal account for project funds. GR will look into this.
 - c. Distribution of Save the Date cards (250 total):
 - i. Distributed at tonight's meeting (30)
 - ii. Give away at walking tours (20)
 - iii. Give away at Sep. 10 picnic at Wasena (40)
 - iv. Mailing list (75) --- NEED TO UPDATE MAILING LIST!
 - v. Roller Derby (30)
 - vi. Distribute at RDC; The Park (remaining 50 or so)

QUICK UPDATES

- 1) ARCHIVES
 - a. Physical Archives: no new donations.
 - b. Digital Archives:
 - i. We will be working on scanning and uploading *BRLP* newsletters from the 1980s this fall semester.
 - ii. GR will talk to Dyron at Virginia Room, and Dave at Fintel Library, about the possibility of community members taking part in the scanning and uploading of metadata to the Digital Archives.
- 2) WALKING TOURS --- see above under "Launch of OSW Tour"
 - a. Downtown Tour
 - b. OSW tour
- 3) LGBT LIBRARY
 - a. We will resume weekly cataloging sessions on Sundays, 1pm-4pm at the RDC.
- 4) ORAL HISTORIES
 - a. Phase III (QPOC Histories): All done, except GR still needs to resolve the issues with PH's oral history
 - b. Phase IV (collectivization): we will send feelers out to both Roanoke and Lynchburg communities to see how many people would be interested in a 3-4 week oral history workshop series, to be scheduled in October or November at either or both places depending on level of interest.

COMMUNITY CURATION

- 1) We are developing an online exhibition about LGBTQ history in Southwest Virginia in the 1980s, with a target launch date of September 2018. (If we can make it in time for Pride in April 2018, that's also a possible goal.)
- 2) Archives Research Parties: GR will see if there's any material left in the archives to take notes on for the exhibit
- 3) Community workshops: we will hold a workshop in November at the RDC, with printed exhibition slides and big pieces of paper for people to comment on the exhibition draft and help us improve it. We will then hold a second workshop in early 2018 after making improvements.

GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION

- 1) Lynchburg
- 2) Blacksburg
- 3) Rockbridge / Lexington
- 4) Statewide Queer History Coalition
 - a. Meeting next on Saturday, November 11, in Lynchburg
 - b. We have secured a website for the coalition, which GR's new Work-Study Research Assistant will work on populating with data

DEMOGRAPHIC EXPANSION

- 1) Continuing goals: attending events in town to make contacts and connections with queer people of color
- 2) New goals: create an Advisory Group of Black LGBTQ folks who have interacted with the project? Invest them with the authority to act autonomously and suggest future directions for the project?
- 3) Apply for Southern Equality Fund grant to create a Black LGBTQ Youth Corps? Frame as paid internships. Young people would be trained in oral history methods so that they could conduct interviews with older Black LGBTQ people in the community. GR and RB will work on writing this grant.

ARTS INITIATIVE

- 1) LGBTQ+ History Zine!
 - a. RB will begin leading the effort to publish Issue 2 with a focus on "Family." RB will make a Call for Submissions that we can have ready in time for distribution at our September events. The goal is to publish Issue 2 in time for the December holidays.

- 2) "Living Trans History" Interactive Theater workshop
 - a. RB mentioned a theater open-mic event starting up in Salem, and will take the lead in proposing some version of our "Living Trans History" theater project for performance in that venue
- 3) Historical Marker Campaign
 - a. Next step: Just submit the application already!!!
- 4) Recreative / Performative Events
 - a. RB will take the lead in proposing "Gay Olympics" activities for our Sep. 10 picnic event at Wasena

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, August 22, 6pm = Printing/Folding/Stamping/Stapling Party @ Bank building, Roanoke College, 223 E. Main Street, Salem

Sept. 4-8 = OSW tour guide training sometime this week

Sunday, Sept. 10, 4pm-8pm = Picnic in the Park @ Wasena Park

Sunday, Sept. 17, 2pm-4pm = Launch of the OSW Gayborhood Walking Tour

Wednesday, Sept. 20, 6pm-8pm = Second Anniversary Party / Year-Three Visioning Workshop @ CoLab

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2pm-4pm = Downtown Roanoke LGBTQ History Walking Tour

Oct/Nov TBD = oral history community workshops in Roanoke and/or Lynchburg?

Sunday, Oct. 22, 2pm-4pm = OSW Gayborhood Walking Tour

Saturday, Nov. 11 = next Statewide Queer History Coalition meeting @ Lynchburg

Nov TBD = community curation workshop @ RDC?

Sunday, Nov. 19, 2pm-4pm = Downtown LGBTQ History Walking Tour