

**Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project
Meeting at the Roanoke Public Libraries
November 14, 2023**

ATTENDANCE: 3

1) ARCHIVES

- a) New Roanoke College research assistant started in September
- b) New graduate-level (MLIS) intern from Old Dominion University also started in September
 - i) The entire *Blue Ridge Banner / Messenger*–MCC church newsletter from the 1990s–is now scanned; will be fully available online by the end of the year
 - ii) Next up are the Ricketson Library’s newsletter from the early 2000s
 - iii) A new subject index for the *BRLP*, covering the entirety of the 1980s, has launched! View it here:
https://swvalgbtqhistory.files.wordpress.com/2023/10/brla_brlp-subject-index-v.1-oct.-23.pdf

2) ORAL HISTORIES

- a) KS - update on interview:
 - i) Will be ready for publication next week
 - ii) GSR: need to add new narrator to subject index; transfer files to Virginia Room

3) PODCAST

- a) Episode 6 on LGBTQ housing and homelessness
 - i) Podcast launch event on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 6pm @ Ursula’s Cafe. Featuring a free community meal, speakers, and a listening party:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/3560079970906492>
- b) Episode 7 will focus on queer youth in our public schools and come out in Spring 2024

4) WALKING TOURS

- a) Videos highlighting the Market area and Elmwood Park stops on the Downtown tour - they turned out great! - KS
 - i) KS - Salem Ave tour reel update
(1) Done! Will post on Friday!
- b) tour guide training & staffing update
 - i) KS will offer tour guide training in March
 - ii) 2024 tour schedule is finalized; flyer will be posted in December
- c) Brochure - GSR have JM update with new website URL & QR code(s)!

5) TRANS WELLNESS FUND

- a) Fall round of applications is over (deadline September 30th). The winter round is open, and closes December 31.

- b) Updates:
 - i) 17 applications received in summer round; 3 awarded; \$1,125 distributed; \$452 still in bank.
 - ii) 29 applications received for the fall funding cycle; awards to be made very soon
 - iii) 2 applications so far received for the winter round (Oct 1 - Dec 31)
- c) MOU between LGBR and History Project to manage the Trans Wellness Fund:
 - i) Update website URL
 - ii) Move clause "LGBR will create an online donation portal..." to History Project responsibilities section
 - iii) LM volunteered to potentially serve as the board member / liaison between projects
- 6) EVENTS
 - a) KS will lead Bar Crawl in April or May; KS will take the lead on the Community Picnic in June
- 7) ENDING RELATIONSHIP WITH ROANOKE COLLEGE
 - a) Our new, independent website is live at swvalgbtqhistory.org.
 - b) As for the digital archives, we'll look into preserving our digital archives materials (PDFs and metadata) off of RC platforms so that it can be used in a different, future setting if desired
- 8) NEXT MEETING?
 - a) Have interest sign-up sheet at podcast launch & then email folks to invite them to next meeting
 - b) Next meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6pm - include making gay Valentine's Day cards craft activity as part of meeting!
 - i) GSR: reserve meeting room