

Houston ARCH Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2009 ~ 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Welcome and Introductions

Updates

OutSmart – June 2009 issue articles from Brandon Wolf
EPAH – presentation to June 16 dinner meeting
Pride History Tent – June 27 – very successful outreach
NEH Grant – \$350,000 proposal submitted July 15 – details on Houston ARCH wiki
After Hours – interview on Houston ARCH and history preservation July 26 – download available on ARCH wiki
Houston Public Library – August 4 meeting to discuss possible cooperation
Queer Nation – August 4 meeting to discuss possible cooperation with Oral History Working Group
UH – August 23 meeting to discuss interest in Houston ARCH at UH
Facebook page – up and running! Invite your friends!
Dianas – Planned presentation to September 16 dinner meeting

ORAL HISTORY FEATURE

I) Oral History Primer

- What it is, what it isn't
- How it's used by researchers, why it's an important piece for us
- What's involved: standards, best practices, transcriptions, pre-interview homework, legal releases, accompanying supporting materials – easier to manage with a “toolkit.”

II) Issues and Opportunities

- We need to be clear on what specifically we want to document
- We have no broadly available equipment yet
- What do we care about: Audio only? Or video as well?
- We have no physical capacity to store recordings (other than digital)
- We have no money yet

III) Current Moving Pieces

- We need to build on the existing list of folks we'd like to interview
- Queer Nation – one group interested in working with Houston ARCH to build the Oral History Toolkit
- Grant writing possibilities – around equipment, around training, around distribution of oral histories
- Potential partnerships with existing Oral History shops Baylor, UH, etc.
- Formation of Oral History Working Group

Next Meeting Oct 28, 6:30pm – 8:30pm, Same location

Meeting Adjourned – 8:30pm (socializing after)