

**Houston ARCH Minutes**  
May 25, 2011 6:30pm – 8:30pm  
GLBT Cultural Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 112/113  
401 Branard, Houston, TX 77006

**Greetings, Agenda, and Introductions**

**Pride Houston History Tent**

Frankie Quijano joined us from Pride Houston with updates about Tent. They confirm that it will be 20x40, that there will be 8-9 tables, 16-18 chairs, around 4 electrical plug boxes, and probably no A/C, unless funding arrives for it. He confirmed that hanging a quilt (Mike Kelley) should not be an issue as you can use that as a "siding" to the tent, or have a separate stand. Projection could use one of the white wall "sidings" on the tent to project on. However, sunlight coming in or through the tent may not let the projection be as "noticeable" as we would like. Bringing a small flatscreen and DVD could be an option. Very little information had been collected from the MachForm Surveys. The rest of the Festival details would be taken care of by Aaron Parrish. Additional info would circulate out to the History Tent people through Brian Riedel.

**Reports –**

**GCAM** – Craig noted a successful fundraiser at BRB on April 10; thank you to all who came.

GCAM also received significant press coverage from My Gay Houston through the profile of the GLBT Cultural Center at MCC:

[http://www.visithoustontexas.com/mygayhouston/Article\\_Detail\\_MyGay\\_VHT?id=595](http://www.visithoustontexas.com/mygayhouston/Article_Detail_MyGay_VHT?id=595)

**Botts** – Larry Criscione reports that the 501(c)(3) application is on hold so as not to antagonize the Church. Collection processing and development continues.

**TFA** – Jo reports that little has happened with the TFA archive since March.

**UH** – Catherine Essinger and Michele Reilly report that there is interest from the UH library in digitizing the objects available in Botts, GCAM, and TFA.

**NEH** – We were not selected for the grant this year. We learned the news in late April. The feedback from this round of reviewers was very heartening, however. We received “excellent” marks from all but one reviewer, whose mark was “very good”. We are clearly on the right track. See grant writing committee below.

**CSWGS Houston ARCH Summer Internship update** – Amanda Mills won the competition for the internship, and has chosen to interview Barry Mandel, a leading figure in LGBT philanthropic work in Houston, and Executive Director of Discovery Green.

**Committee Reports –**

*Grant writing* – The committee will convene later this summer after Pride to reassess the NEH grant, and consider options in line with the conversation

from March: focus on smaller, more local grants to build our portfolio of success using the groundwork laid in the last two years of grants work.

*Website* – CSWGS paid for this year's wiki: \$400 due each April. While we were happy to do that, we do not know how sustainable that will be over time.

The website committee has not yet met.

*Strategic Planning* – After some discussion, the suggestion was that the Strategic Planning Committee meet to form a plan that it would execute over the summer, with the goal of holding the group Strategic Planning session as the first meeting of the fall.

### **Community Outreach –**

**Follow up on *It Gets Better* event at Brazos Bookstore March 26<sup>th</sup>** – This event continues to have waves as people add more videos to the project.

**Queer Voices** – The Botts Collection was featured on the segment of Queer Voices with Houston ARCH. Larry Criscione spoke well to the work of the archive and it's presence in the Church. The show will be available for download from [www.kpft.org](http://www.kpft.org) for 60 days.

**Houston History Conference** – Houston ARCH has an opportunity to submit a proposal for a panel for the October 29, 2011 "Milestones and Arrivals: 175 Years of Coming to Houston" (due June 30)

<http://www.houstonhistoryassociation.org> ; it seemed a reasonable option, however, given the work to do between now and the deadline for Pride, no one stepped forward to take on the process.

**NOTE:** All of the archives should make sure they are registered on

<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/lesbian-and-gay-archives-roundtable-lagar/lavender-legacies-guide>

**UNT listing GCAM and Botts as practicum sites** – Caroline Castillo had no additional update

**The GLBT Interest Group of TLA is coming up for the April 2012 TLA Conference.** Liz Sargent is also deeply involved, and would advocate for us through the process.

### **New Topics**

In the news, the US Government subpoenaed closed oral history files from a university in a case involving the Irish Republican Army

Note <http://www.stonewallnationalmuseum.org> has a competition for \$5,000 for an exhibit made by students.

Note that we are up to revisit our Advisory Board later this August.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED SINE DIE.