

Houston ARCH Minutes
March 28, 2012 6:30pm-8:30pm
GLBT Cultural Center, 1st Floor, Room 111
401 Branard, Houston, TX 77006

Greetings, Agenda, and Introductions

Fairness Works Houston—Mike Craig

Fairness Works Houston is a coalition of groups who have come together to construct a non-discrimination ordinance for City of Houston, inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. Their focus is broadly described as “figuring out how to make changes happen.” Change, they argue, takes more than money. Fairness Works Houston needs volunteers to help create organizational plans and to put those plans in place. They have a survey forthcoming to test the language of the proposed ballot initiative. This survey data will show us where in the electorate this language is effective, and in what areas we need to work.

Their next public meeting is in late April, but the date is still tentative. This meeting will take place at MCC. For more information, go to their Facebook group. For other questions, Mike can be contacted at Houston@outandequal.org

EDITOR’S NOTE: FWH hoped to have the ordinance on the ballot in 2013, but after the March 28 ARCH meeting, has chosen strategically to focus on building support over the next year. The organization is committed to making this a campaign issue in the next election cycles.

Pride Houston—Jason Gallegos

<https://register.pridehouston.org/event/update/summary.php>

Pride Houston is working to gain sponsors for our tent and for A/C. We mentioned that bilingual signs would be useful this year. We also asked that the tent not be located near any bandstands or sound stages.

Organization Reports

Botts – The Botts archive is now in its new space, although they do not have the church holdings yet. Leif Hatlen and Larry Criscione are working on that.

- The Botts archive is now thinking of doing fundraisers since they now have to pay rent.
- The Botts is welcoming new members to their Board of Directors
- The Botts is starting to collect artifacts and needs help numbering. They could use some help here from the Standards Committee

GCAM – April 15th is the annual tent revival at EJ’s on the patio. GCAM needs volunteers for various activities.

- The Avon walk for breast cancer is the following weekend and GCAM is working with the Montrose team.

- 10% of the tent revival profits will go to the walk team. Doing leather exhibits for the leather groups. The auction on February 19th went well.
- TFA** – The TFA is working to obtain an OPAC. Liz Sargent might be able to get a company to donate a copy providing TFA pays annual fee.
- UH** – Catherine Essinger had her twins on March 2.
- Rice** – Brian Riedel announced the two interns who have won the oral history project internships.

Committee Reports

Grant Writing Committee – Report deferred to main discussion

The Website Committee – Nothing to report

The Outreach Committee – The outreach committee has created some business cards. Kirk Baxter has volunteered to help set them up. The outreach committee has also suggested that we need to have an email address set up for ARCH to put on the business card.

- The newsletter still has space for input.
- If anyone needs help for Pride, just let the Outreach Committee know.
- We also might need to send someone from ARCH to the Houston Pride meetings.

Strategic Planning Committee – Report deferred to main discussion

Standards Committee – Nothing to report

Other Reports

1. The Dallas Voice picked up the Houston ARCH logo contest
2. JD Doyle won the Allan Bérubé prize!
 - a. This prize is given by the Committee on LGBT History in San Francisco.
 - b. JD Doyle told the Committee on LGBT History about the QMH and QMH101 lessons he designed for university classes.
 - c. This news would be good to put in the newsletter!
3. AFH benefited from the work of our archives!
 - a. A special thanks to Judy Reeves for accommodating this
 - b. AFH was celebrating their history and contacted Judy for help. Judy directed the AFH to the NAMES Project Houston and gave them her album about the NAMES Project and articles and pictures (scanned copies).

Grant Applications— The Houston Endowment

Brian met one of the grant officers, Elizabeth Love, and talked about Houston ARCH. She said the endowment would like to see an application from ARCH. Rice's office of corporate and foundation relations agreed to collaborate on the endowment application. Each organization within ARCH needs to apply separately so that the Endowment can get to know each one. Love also said we might meet with a previous grantee of the Houston Endowment. Brian met with a representative of the Houston Preservation Alliance, Jim Parsons.

What shape will this grant take?

The Houston Endowment wants a three-year long plan like the NEH. Jennifer Greer has offered to be the archivist if the Houston Endowment approves the grant.

What more could we do in three years?

- 1.) We could go beyond the 103 core holdings identified for the NEH, and thought about doing a full standard assessment of each of the organizations to find the weaknesses of each. This step could lead to a high level inventory of each organization.
- 2.) We may work on prioritizing specific holdings beyond the 103.
- 3.) We may also work on creating a searchable component for the websites for the organizations. Is there anything that we can learn from other organizations who have been in our position?
- 4.) We could work on dissemination:
 - Hosting a conference for GLBT history might be fun.
 - This Week in Texas Obituaries project
 - Need a number of working people. Paid summer internships, possibly.
- 5.) We may work on planning good strategic dissemination events. For example, the history tent offers an opportunity. Say we do a 1985 referendum display at the history tent, while Fairness Houston has a booth outside, tying together the past and the present.

The three organizations must submit a pre-application to the Endowment. Then we wait for them to respond. In the meantime, we should work on the proposal so we can finish the application this summer.

Announcements:

Baylor Online Oral History Workshop: April 4 registration deadline, \$75

<http://www.baylor.edu/oralhistory>

TLA: April 18, 2012, 4:00 pm—Liz, Andrée, and Brian will present on ARCH

Stonewall National Museum and Archives: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/fl-stonewall-nuseum-archives-20120315.0.6316907.fullstory>

Houston History Conference: "Building Houston from Allen's Landing to the

Moon" Hilton-University of Houston Hotel, Saturday June 2, 2012 from 8:30

AM to 3:30 PM <http://www.houstonhistoryassociation.org> We should get a booth here.

MAY 30 WAS SET AS THE NEXT MEETING DATE AND THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED