

Georgia Library Association Gender and Sexuality Diversities Interest Group
GLA Midwinter Meeting Minutes
Virtual
Friday, January 6th, 2023

Attendance:

Betty Rogers, Fort Valley State University
Britt Ozburn, Conyers-Rockdale Library System
Cory Struder, Sequoyah Regional Library System
Elise Stangle, Athens Regional Library System
Em Farmer, Georgia State University Dunwoody Campus
Gina Viarrael, Gwinnett County Public Library
Grant Hedrick, Cobb County Public Library
Jason Puckett, Georgia State University
Jennifer Griffin, Georgia Southwestern State University - **Co-Vice-Chair**
Jordan Graham, Chattahoochee Technical College
Josh Kitchens, Georgia Public Library Service
Justin Ellis, Georgia Tech
Kevin Reagan, Georgia Southern University - **Secretary**
Melanie Duncan, Middle Georgia Regional Library
Raymond Goslow, Georgia Public Library Service - **Chair**
Rebecca Ballard, Athens Regional Library System
Robert Taylor, Valdosta State University

Meeting in Session: 1:00 pm

Welcome

- Introduction from Interest Group Council Vice President
 - Reminders
 - Budget request
 - Review bylaws
- Introductions from officers
- Introductions from attending members

Old Business

- Elections recap
 - Numerous nominations were submitted in the fall election.
 - Instead of a runoff for Vice Chair, Crystal and Jennifer agreed to be co-vice chairs; will be co-chairs next year.
- TRANSforming the Archives event at Georgia State - 10/25/22
 - Recap from Jordan
 - Collection of materials from the trans community for preservation in the [Gender and Sexuality Collection](#) at the University.
 - Call for people to submit their stories (link below)
 - The trans oral history project is still looking for interviewees: [apply here](#)
- Thomas County update

- Thomasville Times-Enterprise: [Holly Phillips resigns as Director of Thomas County Public Libraries](#)
- Situation: person in the community challenged LGBTQIA2S+ library content in Thomasville, GA
- Chair provided an overview of the situation.
- Josh Kitchens posed a question: “Did you mention that the local legislator is considering proposing a change to library qualifications because of this?”
- Josh Kitchens provided a link in the chat, as germane to the discussion: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/all>
- Discussion of legislative session in pursuant to librarian qualifications – in relation to the Thomasville case.
- Karen Manning mentioned advocacy resources available to members of GLA

New Business

- GSDIG Discord - Join at <https://discord.gg/QtsJQYnn6K>
 - Chair updated Discord and discussed changes to the group’s page.
 - Reorganized to facilitate communication in pursuant to the myriad roles of librarians.
- Social events for 2023
 - Continue Game Night
 - Discuss time and frequency
 - Chair asked to see when and which platform to utilize for group game nights.
 - Call for attendees to share times convenient for game night.
 - Many members noted that evenings were most convenient and that Jackbox is the preferred platform to host game night.
 - Chair proposed the third Thursday of each month for game night.
 - Elise mentioned an alternative book club
 - Options
 - Continue using Jackbox
 - Bring Your Own Book game
 - Social time
 - Discuss best time
 - Chair mentioned social chat that the access services group hosts.
 - Chair posited the idea of having a book night for the months when we aren’t doing game night.
 - Floor was open to discuss when a book club meeting could take place
 - Alternating months (around game night)
 - Group decided to meet at lunch time (noon)
 - Book/media club– see notes under “social time”
- Budget requests
 - Due by January 20th
 - Use budget to purchase pronoun ribbons/pins for conferences

- Last year (2022) the purchasing of pronoun ribbons was directed to the conference committee
 - Open floor for any suggestions
 - Meeting somewhere in Athens, GA during the GLC conference
 - Officers will meet to discuss budget requests
 - Will notify members via Discord & email before the deadlines
- GLC 2023
 - Location and dates - 10/4-10/6 at Classic Center in Athens
 - Chair updated members on the conference location place and date
 - Discussion of potential lightning talks for 2023 GLC
 - Ways to encourage and support presenters from our group
 - Session idea brainstorming
 - Chair mentioned using Discord to discuss and brainstorm presentation ideas.
 - After conference acceptance - practice presentations with group
 - Chair mentioned the idea of the group helping people practice presentations for the conference.
 - Potential for a social event at the conference.
- Floor was open to discussion and other items
 - Robert mentioned that they are doing a workshop on LGBTQIA+ inclusivity in Cobb County
 - Mentioned [Safe Zone Project](#) (free curriculum training)
- Chair called for members to complete the attendance form just in case anyone missed it.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:53 pm

Next Meeting: TBD

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin Reagan
Secretary