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Buffalo-Niagara LGBTQ History Project Minutes

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### May 2018 (2); Buffalo-Niagara LGBTQ History Project Minutes

Buffalo-Niagara LGBTQ History Project

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**Buffalo-Niagara LGBTQ History Project**  
**Fundraising Meeting**  
**May 22, 2018**

*Dramatis Personae:* Tanja, Phoebe, Ana, Gena, Adrienne

The purposes of this meeting were as follows: 1) To determine what needs to be done in order for Gena to complete the Pollination Project grant; 2) to give Tanja necessary information to complete a Public Humanities grant; 3) to briefly discuss whether there were any additional grants on our horizon; 4) to revisit the question of whether the History Project should pursue a 501c3.

Working through the Pollination Project grant, Gena mentioned needing information about the History Project's budget, a chart of expenses, information about how we will raise money for our intended programs besides applying for the Pollination Project grant, and our plans for organizational sustainability. Adrienne agreed to look at the list of questions on the Pollination Project's website and answer them in greater detail at a later date, but in general, we discussed the following:

- Although we did not fully figure the cost of the upcoming community read, we tried to at least list foreseeable expenses. These include:
  - Venue fee for the kickoff event, and possibly for other events. (Gena is acquainted with the owners of Sewing Souls, and it is possible that we could get that event for free or for very cheap.)
  - Posters and other publicity expenses (both for the kickoff event, and for the community read as a whole).
  - Partially subsidizing the cost of 20 books for the event, so that money is not a bar to participation. Books cost about \$25 each. Phoebe will talk to Talking Leaves about ordering and possibly subsidizing some of the books, as well.
  - Honorarium fees for speakers.
  - Food for the walking tour. (Note: the Pollination Project stipulates that we cannot use their money to buy animal-based products or disposable utensils.)
  - We also discussed including filming equipment in the scope of this grant, since filming equipment is far and away our biggest expense, and Gena thought this was a good idea. Ana believes that Dani has already created a budget for the purchase of equipment; she will pass that information on to Gena.
- Adrienne will need to put together an organizational history for the grant, and pass it on to Gena. Gena will also send a draft of the grant thus far to Adrienne, and

Adrienne will look it over.

- We talked a bit about our history with donations from other organizations and individuals, and how to talk about that in grant applications. For the most part, we have received in-kind donations from other organizations--letting us use a venue, printing photos for us, etc. We are continuing to pursue these in-kind donations for the community read--mostly from UB, but as mentioned above, potentially other organizations, as well.
- Admittedly, we don't have much in the way of a sustainability plan, and this is something we need to work on.

Gena agreed to get the Pollination Project application drafted by June 5, while Tanja will use the information provided at this meeting to apply for the Public Humanities application later in the month. Adrienne ultimately will begin the search for additional grants.

As for pursuing a 501c3: We spent some time talking about the history of our discussions about obtaining one for the History Project--why some members are for, and some are against it, either for the time being or permanently. A series of events as ambitious as the Community Read will need to have a method for bringing in larger donations, but Gena's organization should be obtaining its 501c3 within a couple months, and she invited us to take in donations under the auspices of her organization. For the time being, we are planning to take her up on that offer.