

Audre Lorde to Howard Zinn Library
Meeting Agenda | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 25, 2012
Facilitating: Kristin P.

Present: Kristin, Rebecca, Myrna, Meghan, Anna

Updates (5 minutes each max)

FAWG money update – confirmation? [Anna]

Weekly stipend freeze until Mar 1, otherwise if we're doing a Direct Action and need it earlier, we can apply for special funds.

Book stamp update [Rebecca]

\$10-30 range. If we can throw in together to fund \$3-4 each or so.

How do we handle costs like this in the meantime? Myrna suggests we put the word out to friends, ask for donations at our speaking engagements. Even if we just have a box in the back.

Book drop update

Leave a book drop box at one of the regular locations? Community Church of Boston? Leave a box there that people could bring books to return (and then check them out again). [Heather] Send email to list see if anybody picks up, if not Heather will send to list.

[Kristin] will email St. Pauls about getting a drop box.

No one's heard from anyone. St. Paul's may not be hosting us forever? Cleaning up after ourselves might be an issue from the Community Gathering. Rebecca has a contact at Community Church of Boston. Kristin will contact Emmanuel Church. Myrna will email Arlington St Church.

Good just to be circulating! [Kristin volunteers to make the boxes!]

Volunteers for Community Gathering/GA (5 mins)

Jan 26 – Emmanuel Church 7:00 p.m.

Jan 28 – Community Church of Boston 5:00 p.m.

Jan 29 – Action Assembly Community Church of Boston 5:00 p.m.

Jan 30 - Community Gathering CASA 6:00 p.m. - Kristin

Jan 31 – Arlington Street Church 7:00 p.m - Anna R

Meghan reports in from OccupySomerville GA-- giant u of tables, facilitators provided general overview and updates, break up into small working groups. Mellow! Minutes should be available. She introduced the library to them, and two people spoke to her who want to donate books/ journals to us. Somerville reading list was passed out.

Research Guides update (10 mins)

Guides in progress:

JP resource [Frances]

Young adult reading list Somerville update [Meghan]

Allston resource guide [Kristin]

Watertown [Heather]

Cambridge [Anna]

Discussion - New research guides? Topics of interest? Reach out to working groups?

Really great response to reading lists! Those of us in communities, still working on city-based readings lists. Any working groups with needs? Kristin's example: she's working on creating alternate/activist Boston walking tours, and perhaps they could use historical context to supplement them.

General thoughts on the best way to reach people? Bomb the email lists? Rebecca-- try to revise the liason list, but update them so we have a researcher to help them to create resource guides or do more in-depth research. Myrna-- should we move folks to the RadRef for those questions? The list has good response, and it already exists. Kristin-- it's on the Wiki, but make it easier to navigate. Myrna-- could we put the research guides up on the RadRef page?

Free, resource that could live there. Meghan-- can we make the reading lists on the wiki more prominent, or move them up. Now we have a lot more. Rebecca will take any thoughts/ suggestions on how to reorganize, or for those that feel comfortable enough, you can play around with it.

Myrna-- can we get it resource guides on the Occupy website? Kristin-- send to Kevin Mailey or Gunner to get the info up on the Digest. They're always looking for content. Up on the main page, facebook, and twitter.

Anna- can we tie in with major events? Citizens United would have been good to have a special resource guide, if I had gotten my act together in time. It's hard to get to the day time events. Myrna-- we can create it, send them a link, and they can print it up and pass them out!

General: let's keep better eye on the themed direct actions.

Outreach update (10 mins)

Public Speaking

- U of Illinois update - Jan 19 [Anna]
- Heather MacLean with the Boston Society of Architects - [Kristin]
- SxSW - see what we can do with this. March 9th. [Kristin]

Kristin-- is it money well spent, if we "occupy" this? Mulling it over. Maybe even camping in a library parking lot. Still toying with it. Weird risk of having Occupy being co-opted. Have not connected with Occupy Austin yet.

Myrna-- panel liasoning. Difficulty of proposing grassroots reference Grand Rounds to the interactive portion of it. Think having a presence would be good, since they are some of the most technologically innovative people in one setting. Do we preach to the choir, or do we want to be changing minds? It would be great to have A-Z people there. Rogue pop-up library, giving out all these great guides. Helps remind the innovators of the things that need to follow in their wake. But really expensive to go.

Kristin-- good conversation to have, why is this so out of reach to every day people. How can we get these people to make their tech innovation to work for grassroots, for change organizations.

Myrna-- You know, they go, they pay \$500 a ticket, we're there with our message, we're in their face-- it would be nice to not have them escape.

The New England Archivists Spring 2012 Meeting will be held on March 23-24, 2012 at Wesleyan U [Frances]

Presentations in general. How do we decide how we represent our work? Careful of the press. Not sure if it's practical to always put our presentations up online before or afterwards, but transparency, or getting comfortable with presenting on behalf of the whole. Whether that's something we just discuss in small groups before or if we just trust and then ask to see what happened after the fact.

Kristin-- maybe it's a good idea to create a document of factoids, that we all make together. To pull together our own history so we can all build off that. **[POINT PERSON????]**

Archives (20 mins)

Preserving proposals update (KP and Heather met with Matthew Hacker of Facilitation) [Kristin]
Printed documents update [Meghan]

Discussion - What do we preserve / what is A-Z responsible for?
Discussion - how to conduct records survey, determine questions for WGs

Are we formally archiving this movement? Are we committing to that? Can we gather all the materials, everything? Kristin-- in my mind, yes! We look for all the output. Meghan shows us a huge binder she's compiled that is one half of one working group. Meghan suggests we should start to order the stuff in the ephemera box. Kristin thinks it may not be an immediate priority, but important to start thinking of how we will tackle that. Kristin and Meghan planning an archival working party as they are current caretakers of most of the collection (getting together with Heather as well).

Facilitation's proposal archiving request. Kristin and Heather met with Matt H to give advice on how he

could best archive them. A woman put together a binder full of handwritten and typed proposals which Matt is keeping. Matt will try to get each working group to appoint a liason who is in charge of putting up all of their proposals online. He will work with them to get up the files, and maybe we're just in charge of printing them out and archiving them. What we pledged was that we could present our archival strategy to a GA and encourage the WGs to work within our good practice guidelines.

Meghan-- what's the priority on documenting our movement? Press, legal stuff, proposals, internal output? For discussion.

Sidebar from Kristin: keep your receipts! Keep track of how many hours you put into research, keep track of usage statistics, reference, etc. All this helps to prove who we are and how we are serious.

How do we get together with the WGs? Personal discussion might build trust, etc. But better to start with a free survey to get an idea of what's out there? 70 groups! 20 active, but still. How do we prioritize. Facilitation for example is a really big one. Something we should be thinking about. Kristin-- personally think it's important to talk to GA soon about our archiving plans. But we shouldn't promise on something we can't deliver. Myrna-- if we just add the word "attempt" to what we pledge to do, then add an electronic form to decide which groups will need a personal follow up to get information from. I've got some questions in my head that could go on a form.

Kristin-- next step I could distill the archiving mission into shorter draft, send it out to the list. Then show what we've done so far, send it to the working groups.

Discuss Frances's draft abstract for the NEA conference. Suggest combine the succinct intro to A-Z Library from Meghan's halfsheet, to some of the draft archiving vision statement from Kristin, to add to the excellent information about how we use volunteers and see our scope. Mention maybe the issues that the Occupy Movement has gathered around. Do we include the co-option fears? We put history in context.

Hmm, what if we put on a symposium? A hell of a lot of work, but...

Determine facilitator and any roll over topics of interest (5 mins)

Anna will facilitate as she has not done so since November (!)
Kristin will help out/ coordinate space.

Rebecca-- should we revive a Radical Reference meeting? See it as a re-grouping, get some renewed energy into the group, some fresh eyes. Good to catch up with their other non A-Z projects.