

Aging with Pride: Meeting Minutes October 22, 2023

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Attendees:

Dale A Mike M Pat Z Steve Mike S Phyl Karen F Marty S Kem

A. September 20, 2023 Upcoming Event: Erie Community Foundation LGBTQ+ Elders and Affirming Community: A Film and Conversation for Erie's Future

September 20, 2023 - 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Venue: Tom Ridge Environmental Center: 301 Peninsula Drive., Erie PA
16505

Contact: (814) 454-0843 or oburgess@eriecommunityfoundation.org

- Free event provided by UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor, The LGBT + Funds of the Erie Community Foundation ND Mercyhurst University.
- Approx. 70 Participants attended the event.
- Local, regional and national senior resources were discussed in AWP planning session: Erie Agency on Aging, GEAC, Independent Council on Aging, SAGE, Edinboro University (Gerontology Program), LE COM etc.
- Current AWP questions involve: while the workshop highlighted specific problems of isolation, challenges in the healthcare service delivery services for homebound LGBTQ+ seniors in Massachusetts and the development of effective service delivery, what needs and resources are available in NW PA to address such gaps in the social and healthcare sectors.
- Further research and information are needed as well as ongoing discussions in AWP planning sessions.
- Dale has been in contact with GECAC, Ray Maholtz, Ray will meet with AWP on November 19, 2023 during the regular planning session session to identify any gaps in LGBTQ+ services, information on funding sources for the services received by individuals in the 9/20/23 film, any specific senior LGBTQ+ needs identified in NW Pennsylvania?

B. Aging with Pride Website

1. Aging with Pride Website address: agingwithprideerie.org
 - a. AWP meeting minutes to be sent for website posting
 - b. The AWP target age group is 50+
 - c. AWP includes provision for AWP Allies. (Friends, relatives, etc.)
 - d. Steve presented website stats: no change in website activity from previous report.
 - e. Call for more pictures available capturing AWP activities, travel and events to be used on website and in Erie Gay News.

C. Aging with Pride Book Club:

1. October 21, 2023 A Density of Souls – Christopher Rice
Werner Boks, 1-2 PM. Six (6) attended, mixed reviews of Rice's work. Group seemed to agree with views Rice shared in his "Afterword" self-review.
2. November 18, 2023 City of Night- John Rechy
3. December 16, 2023 Naked Lunch - William S. Burroughs

D. Aging with Pride Happy Hour Event:

1. October 26, 2023 at Like Mai Tai, 827 State Street, 6 PM – 8 PM.
BYOB as well as soft drinks and mixers.
2. Pat volunteered to bring inventories, table topper.
3. Update on cost estimates for individual name tags for AWP planning session members, any word from vendor estimates?

E. T- shirt orders: T shirts, Tank Tops, Hoodies

1. Whee ! Studios - Patrick Hiller
2. Wheepride.shop/collections/aging-with-pride
3. Patrick reports \$ 63.44 in funds for AWP from T Shirt sales.
4. Check signatories Randy/Steve/Dale/Michael are in place with two signatures required on each check. Lake Erie Counseling office address will be used on account. First Flagship account statement received. Steve made original deposit to open the account and that amount (\$ 30.00) shows on initial statement. Will check on status of 63.44 from shirt/sweatshirt sales.

F. AWP Needs Assessment and Interest Inventory

1. AWP Article on Needs Assessment: blank assessments in closet in mtg room.
2. To date, 45 assessments completed:
 - age range of respondents 40-79 years
 - Greatest social interests to date are (1) gatherings at Restaurants, (2) movies, (3) live performances, (4) coffee houses.
- Respondents rank interests in Educational/Community Resources as **(1) Housing (2) Healthcare (3) Medication access (4) Transportation.**
- Respondents: 57% Male, 34% Female

G. AWP Visit: October 14, 2023: Andy Warhol Museum, 117 Sandusky Street, Pgh. Pa. PH: 412-237-8300..

Seven AWP members carpooled for this event. Positive museum experience for all attending. Fantastic Lunch at the North Shore Tavern following museum tour. Thank you, Blane, for scouting out the lunch venue and, "Only 150 feet from the Warhol Museum." Left Erie @ 8:30 AM, returned 5:00 PM

F. Upcoming Events

1. **October 26, 2023** AWP Happy Hour- Like Mai Tai, 827 State Street, PM. BYOB/soft drinks/mixers
2. **October 27, 2023** Movie "Rocky Horror Picture Show 2 Erie Movie House, 3424 West Lake Road. 7PM – 10 PM. Notices of event indicate limited seating.
3. **November 5, 2023** Regularly scheduled AWP planning session. Lake Erie Counseling Center 1-2 PM
4. **November 18, 2023** - Blizzard of Blankets Volunteer with the Upper Room Homelessness Program at St. Paul's Church, 1024 Peach Street, Erie PA 16501. 9 AM – Noon. (Mike, Kem, Dale, Karen, Randy, Marty)
5. **November 19, 2023** Regularly scheduled AWP planning session. Lake Erie Counseling Center 1-2 PM.
6. **November 20, 2023** Trans Day of Awareness
7. **November 30, 2023** AWP Happy Hour/Dinner Valerios, 724 Powell Avenue

Erie. 6 PM – 8 PM.

8. **December 1, 2023 World AIDS Day** – Events scheduled for the Blasco library beginning 5{30 PM
9. **December 3, 2023 2023** Regularly scheduled AWP planning session.
Lake Erie Counseling Center 1-2 PM
10. **December 6, 2023** Game night at Werner Books 6 PM- 8 PM.
Board games, cards, etc.
11. **December 14, 2023** AWP Xmas 6 PM (Blane)
12. **December 17, 2023** Regularly scheduled AWP planning session.
Lake Erie Counseling Center 1-2 PM
13. **December 28, 2023** AWP Happy Hour/Dining Royal Chopstix Asia,
5444 West Lake Road, Erie. 6PM – 8 PM.

Potential Future Events:

Decision made to obtain information/research possibilities for a LGBTQ+ film showing of multiple films as a future event.