

- **Introductions + Welcome**
 - A brief history of McDowell SAGE
 - Founded in 2016 and intended as a safe community for the LGBT+ population of McDowell County. In addition to social meet-ups and bowling nights, SAGE has hosted 2 Community Friendsgiving Potlucks and a coat drive this past autumn

- **Icebreaker + Introductions “What does PRIDE mean to you?”**

- **Open Group Discussion + Suggestions**

What are your goals for this group?

 - Broaden minds
 - Build community
 - Connect LGBT+ friends and neighbors to relevant resources
 - Provide community support through service-oriented programming
 - Engage minority populations
 - Youth engagement
 - Family friendly LGBT+ events and outings
 - Community service projects
 - Host social events
 - Engage LGBT+ people who have not attended past events
 - Host a McDowell PRIDE Event
 - Long term goal
 - Traditional PRIDE festival vs. starting with a unity event
 - Building community, audience, and allies to support a public event

- **Open Group Discussion + Suggestions**

Discussion focus on 3 topics and the priority directions for the future of the group
SOCIAL EVENTS, SERVICE PROJECTS, & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

 - **SOCIAL**
 - Bonfire
 - Future Friendsgivings
 - Movie Night (@ Mountain Marquee? We’ll check into the cost of a private event)
 - Family Friendly events
 - Bowling Nights
 - FOOD!
 - Potential Field Trips
 - Dollywood
 - PRIDE @ Carowinds
 - LGBT Burke Pride Festival in Morganton (usually in September)
 - Blue Ridge Pride Asheville (September)

- **SERVICE**
 - Visibility at Downtown Festivals / education and public info distribution
 - Future projects to be submitted
 - Awareness Events and Activities
 - LGBT Holidays
 - Service tied to future events like Friendsgiving + coat drive
 - Effort to recognize needs in our community and evaluate how we can help
 - Connecting population to resources

- **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**
 - Visibility at Downtown Festivals
 - Plan to host a booth @Donut Festival on April 20 10-3pm
VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF THE BOOTH NEEDED
 - Printing stickers to give out at festival
 - Info cards to hand out?
 - Motion to vote on opening the McDowell SAGE FB Group from 'hidden' to 'closed' so that it can be found via FB Search
 - Motion passed
 - Group will now be listed as 'Closed' and new members can submit a request to join.
 - Suggestion made to create a public FB Page in addition to the Closed FB group and engage a younger population via Instagram or Twitter

- **CLOSING**
 - Plan our next event Dinner @ Luisa's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria
2845 Sugar Hill Rd Marion NC 28752 (in the Walmart complex)
Thursday February 21st at 6pm
 - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to staff the SAGE booth @ Carolina Donut Festival on 4/20 from 10-3pm
 - Please leave us your email/contact info with us before you leave

 - Our contact info:
 - Email mcdowellsage@gmail.com
 - Website mcdowellsage.com
 - FB Group Link facebook.com/groups/571260773024070