

Minutes of the KPFK Local Station Board Meeting of December 17, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the KPFK Local Station Board was held on Saturday, December 17, 2011 at 1:11 PM PST at Peace Center West, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230, the chair (Margie Murray, upon election) being in the chair and the secretary (John P. Garry III) being present. The minutes of the previous meeting (November 19, 2011) were approved. Board officers were elected.

Twenty-three members were present, constituting a quorum: Ken Aaron, Chuck Anderson, Ankin Antaram, Rodrigo Argueta (late), Fred Blair, Lydia Brazon, Omar Burdet (late), John Cromshaw (1:43), Leonard Isenberg, Kim Kaufman, Fred Klunder, Jim Lafferty, Ali Lexa, Brenda Medina, Sequoia Olivia Mercier, Dutch Merrick, Margie Murray, Michael Novick, John Parker (1:46), Summer Reese (1:49), Lawrence Reyes, John Wenger (2:34), Lamont Yeakey (1:48).

One member was absent: Aryana Gladney.

Also present: Bernard Duncan (KPFK General Manager), Steve Goldsmith (Audio Board), Terry Goodman (Audio Recordist, Election Teller) and members of the public.

Authority and Notice: This meeting was authorized by the LSB by a motion approved at its meeting of October 19, 2011. Public notice was posted on December 12, 2011 (see Appendix A).

Audio Recording: The audio of the meeting is available for a limited time at KPFTX.org. Audio Part 1 and 3 have been temporarily taken offline by Terry Goodman "...in response to a claim of possible defamation."

[Audio Part 1]

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL (1:11)

The meeting was **called to order** by the Chair at 1:11 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (1:15)

Novick noticed the beginning of the trial of Pfc. Bradley Manning. Merrick announced Manning's birthday. The Chair thanked Steve Goldsmith for operating the sound board. Merrick announced that his film *One Minute* was playing in film festivals.

MINUTES APPROVAL (1:16)

The minutes of November 19, 2011 were distributed to the board electronically before the meeting and were **approved** by a hand vote: Yes—13, No—0, Abstain—1.

Responding to a concern raised by Kaufman, the Secretary committed to check the accuracy of a passage for possible correction.

AGENDA APPROVAL (1:20)

Following a discussion initiated by Isenberg, Reyes **moved to table** the agenda item “Politics Or Pedagogy” until John Cromshow (the host of the show) arrives. Motion **passed** without objection.

Kaufman **moved** to make the Solar Project discussion a closed session. Motion **failed** by a hand vote: Yes—6, No—9, Abstain--0.

Aaron **moved** to move Election of Officers to after General Manager Q&A. Motion **failed** by a hand vote: Yes—6, No—8, Abstain—1.

Lafferty **moved** the Agenda. The amended agenda was **approved** by a hand vote: Yes--10, No—0, Abstain—0.

GROUND RULES FOR COMMUNICATION (1:32)

The Chair reiterated the ground rules for board communication and methods of public participation.

II. SCHEDULING / NOTICE OF MEETINGS (1:32)

Saturday, January 14, 2012, Peace Center West, 1:00-4:00.

III. CHAIR REPORT (1:34)

The Chair delivered an oral report. Discussion followed.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT (1:47)

Kaufman (Treasurer) gave an oral report. Discussion followed.

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (1:51)

[Audio Part 2]

Listener comment was heard after the first two nominations and before each vote was taken.

Chair nominations: Murray, Novick.

The secret ballot being tied (11-11), by a coin toss Novick was **elected** Chair.

Novick took the Chair (2:27)

Vice-Chair nominations: Murray, Medina.

By a secret ballot Murray was **elected** Vice-Chair by a vote of 12-11.

Treasurer nominations: Kaufman, Medina.

The Chair ruled to limit the number of board comments on candidates to four (two speaking in favor of each candidate). Reyes **appealed** the ruling of the Chair and moved to have a third round of board comments. The motion to overrule the Chair and hold a third round of board comment **failed** by a hand vote: Yes—10, No—10, Abstain—0.

[Audio Part 3]

By a secret ballot Kaufman was **elected** Treasurer by a vote of 13-9.

Brazon **moved** to hold an election for Secretary at this meeting.

Cromshaw **moved** to publicly advertise the position of Secretary and hold an election for Secretary at the next meeting. No vote taken—motion mooted by Brazon’s motion.

Brazon’s motion **passed** by a hand vote: Yes—14, No—5, Abstain—1.

Secretary nominations: John Wenger (declined), John P. Garry III.

Running unopposed, Garry was **elected** by acclamation.

Isenberg **moved** to amend the agenda to include a discussion of the KPFK’s “Politics Or Pedagogy” program. Motion **failed** by a hand vote Yes—3, No—11, Abstain—4.

Reese **moved** to have a time certain of 4:15 for Bylaws Amendments. Motion **passed** without objection.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION / FOLLOW-UP / ACTION ITEMS (3:41)

The Secretary reported on information requests from the previous meeting regarding Arbitron motions and the PD Search Committee. Ali Lexa (PD Search Co-Chair) gave a report on the PD Search process. The ICE raids reporting policy was discussed.

VII. PD SEARCH (included in the above item)

VIII. GENERAL MANAGER Q&A

Klunder **moved**: “The LSB directs the General Manager to return at its next meeting either (a) to explain that ICE raids can not be announced on air and why or (b) to indicate when they will begin to be announced and how and to what extent and per which procedures.”

Motion **passed** by a hand vote: Yes—17, No—0, Abstain--1.

Wenger noticed a Governance Committee meeting for Monday, January 9, 2011 at Peace Center West.

Time certain having been reached, the meeting was **adjourned** and reconvened in the same place for a Delegates Assembly at 4:14 PM.

[Audio Part 4] Delegates Assembly (see 12-17-2011 Delegates Assembly Minutes)

[Audio Part 5]

The reconvened LSB Meeting was called to order at 4:41 PM PST.

VIII. GENERAL MANAGER Q&A (continued, 4:42)

The General Manager answered questions from the board.

Isenberg **moved** to definitively end the Solar Project. Ruled **out of order** by the Chair.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT II (4:57)

Public comment was heard for ten minutes.

X. GENERAL MANAGER RESPONDS TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Omitted due to the departure of the General Manager. Murray took the Chair.

Point of Personal Privilege from Reese: Reese responded to a public comment that was about her.

Lexa **moved** to extend ten minutes for discussion of the Solar Project. Motion **passed** by a hand vote: Yes—10, No--1, Abstain—1. (5:12)

Lexa distributed a “Solar Potential Report” to the board. This report can be reproduced online at <http://solarmap.lacounty.gov/> by entering 3729 Cahuenga Blvd.

Point of order from Medina: Time has expired, we need to vote to extend.

Lexa **moved** to extend five minutes. Motion **passed** without objection.

XI. SOLAR ARRAY PROJECT MOTION (5:20)

Whereas the solar project status report from Management, of November, 2011, in response to the LSB

motion, did not address the LSB's concerns relating to unsoundness of the contract, the accuracy of the budget or the science asserted in SunGreen's estimates;

Whereas former KPFK management did not return to the LSB with proposals, as the LSB authorized the Operations Director to do, but instead incorrectly signed a contract for \$107,649 (only officers of the corporation are vested to sign contracts) with additional unbudgeted and unaccounted costs bringing the possible total for the project up to or above approximately \$150,000;

Whereas press releases and promotional material contain speculative and misleading statements;

Whereas former KPFK management presented the Solar Array Project to the public and LSB as a *fait accompli* and an "off budget" project, while still making use of station resources including staff time, solicitation of donations during fund drive and otherwise, promotion on the website, promotion in the e-newsletter and a special fund raising event promoted on-air, and time spent in soliciting grants -- all for an "off budget" project with funds in a restricted account and not for the general operational budget of the station;

Whereas the October fund drive came in \$180,000 under budget and there are already significant outlays for unbudgeted expenses, such as for the new transmitter;

The Finance Committee moves that the solar project be brought to the National Finance Committee for review and recommendations as soon as possible and that until that adjudication is obtained, there will be no further promotion, press releases, solicitation of donations, acquisition of grants or any other actions that would act to fund this project.

Motion **passed** by a hand vote: Yes—7, No—3, Abstain—1.

Due to expiration of time, the meeting **adjourned** at 5:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted by John P. Garry III, Secretary
(these minutes were approved on February 15, 2012)

Appendix A—Public Notice

Emailed by Terry Goodman on Monday, December 12, 2011 8:26:41 AM

The KPFK Delegates will meet on Saturday, December 17, 2011 beginning at 1:00 pm at 3916 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230. This is a special meeting to consider various proposed amendments to the Pacifica Foundation Bylaws. The KPFK Local Station Board will convene for a regular meeting following the special Delegates meeting. New

LSB officers for the 2012 term should be elected.

Refs:

<http://www.kpfb.org/lsbpbmenu/93-calenderandnotices/5504-delegates-and-lsb-12172011-100-pm.html>

http://www.kpfb.org/eventcal.html?task=view_detail&agid=2327&year=2011&month=12&day=17

<http://www.kpftx.org/pacalendar/calresults.php?eventdate=20111217>

Appendix A-Approved Agenda

LSB Meeting

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Excused Absences, Minutes Approval, Agenda Approval, Announcements, Ground Rules for Communication (15 min)
- II. Scheduling/Notice of Meetings (5 min)
- III. Chair Report (5 min)
- IV. Treasurer's Report
- V. Election of Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) (45 min)
 - a. Nominations
 - b. Public Comment I (7.5 min)
 - c. Voting / Results
- VI. Implementation/Follow-Up/Action Items (5 min)
 - Secretary report on information requests (scheduling of meetings, Arbitron Motions), Website LSB committee information, et al, LSB Contract, ICE Raids Notifications,
- VII. PD Search
- VIII. General Manager Q&A (15 min)
- IX. Public Comment II (questions may be directed to GM) (7.5 min)
- X. General Manager responds to public comment. (5 min)

Delegates Meeting

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Excused Absences, Agenda Approval (5 min)
- II. Public Comment (on Proposed Bylaws Amendments) (7.5 min)
- III. Proposed Bylaws Amendments Elections (30 min)
 - Proposed Amendment 5: Staff Quorum, Art. 3, Sec. 7.
 - Proposed Amendment 6: Nomination Period, Art. 3, Sec. 7.
 - Proposed Amendment 8: STV/IRT Voting with Ties, Art. 15, Sec. 1, para 1.
 - Proposed Amendment 9: STV Droop Threshold, Art. 15, Sec. 1, para 3.

LSB Meeting Reconvenes

- XI. Solar Project GM Report & Discussion (30 min)
 - Solar Power Motion from Finance Committee
- XII. Public Comment IV (7.5 min)
- XIII. PNB Director Reports (15 min)

Appendix B-GM Report

PACIFICA RADIO KPFK 90.7 FM
MANAGER’S REPORT TO THE LOCAL STATION BOARD
 Saturday, December 17, 2011
 (Bernard Duncan, General Manager)

Manager’s Overview

- This week the December fund-drive began, and it is planned to keep it short at seven days. The target is \$350,000. At the time this report was prepared, the total pledged was just over \$120,000. The drive will end on Monday.
- Work is underway to have staff and volunteers undertake Title VII sexual harassment training in the coming few months. The Pacifica Foundation will begin the process by having managers complete the training, with other staff and volunteers following soon after.
- The strongest Santa Ana winds in a decade took out SoCal Edison’s power service to our transmitter site on Mt Wilson (and much of L.A.), and left us without terrestrial signal for two days. The imminent installation of our new transmitter and recommissioned back-up generator will alleviate such eventualities, but the timing was particularly frustrating, just a week out

from the December fund-drive.

- Preparation has begun to clarify and confirm the lists required to facilitate a trouble-free LSB election process in 2012. This includes updating and confirming information currently held in databases that relates to anyone eligible to cast a ballot in the election.
- General – KPFK’s Public File is up to date.

Outreach and Development

- Fund Drive Fallout – During this month Development/Outreach has been focused on Fund Drive deliveries and prep work for the Holiday Season Mini Pledge Drive.
- Member Benefits – The new format of the Member Benefits Card has been worked out and will be going into production at the close of the mini drive.
- Speaker Series – The production team of *Uprising Radio* produced an overwhelmingly successful Speaker Event with Gabor Mate which brought over 1,000 listeners to Immanuel Presbyterian Church and an income to KPFK of more than \$9,000*.
- Media Sponsorships – A sponsorship agreement has been negotiated with the Skirball Cultural Center to support the “2012 Women in World Music” concert series, which compliments the larger cultural exhibition “Women Hold Up Half the Sky”. The cross-promotion will feature KPFK in print and their websites, as well as e-blasts to the Skirball’s donor base.
- Interns – KPFK is hosting a student intern from UCLA who is working on updating descriptions of programming for the KPFK website so that access to information about our shows is reliable, appealing and consistent.
- CAB – The next CAB meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 18th and will be focused on building the CAB membership and electing an interim Chair and Secretary.

Programming

- OccupyLA – The highlight of the last month’s programming was the exceptional coverage of the Occupy movement; in particular of OccupyLA. In contrast to virtually every other broadcast media outlet, KPFK’s shows consistently featured the voices of movement participants. Virtually all of our talk shows, in English and Spanish, made excellent contributions in this regard – and even some of our music shows. While all the occupy coverage has been excellent, mention should be made of the exceptional work done by KPFK news reporter Ernesto Arce. From inside and outside City Hall, to LAPD press conferences, to bank sit-ins, to foreclosure protests, to the Port Action early Monday morning, Ernesto has been everywhere he could be these past couple of months. Acknowledgement is also due to volunteers and the LSB members who contributed high-standard reports from the scene.
- The Downside – The loss of our signal less than 24 hours after the raid on the OccupyLA camp was frustrating. As word of the brutal treatment meted out by the LAPD began to leak out of the Metropolitan Detention Center, KPFK was unable to report this information over our airwaves because the winds on Mt. Wilson had knocked out power to our transmitter.
- On-air Programming – Mary Katherine Aldin has given word to management that she will not be continuing *Alive and Pickin’* after the New Year. While we haven’t made the final decision on what will replace Mary Katherine’s successful Saturday morning show, we are looking at a proposal of a rotation of former KPFK music hosts, who will, in effect, be “executive produced” by Mary Katherine.
- Hiatus – Also, we will begin putting some longstanding shows on hiatus, allowing them a few weeks (or a couple of months) to retool – while allowing more people a chance to produce radio on KPFK. The first to take a brief hiatus will be *IMRU*, which will be off for five weeks beginning in January, while a series called *The Out Agenda* will run in the Monday at 7pm timeslot. *IMRU* will be back in February. Other one-hour-a-week shows will be put on hiatus shortly thereafter.
- Evaluation – A General Manager’s program evaluation questionnaire, that is to be filled out and returned in January, has been sent out to all station programmers.
- LPAC – The Listener Programming Advisory Committee is completing its review of all English language talk shows; and interim Program Director Alan Minsky will be meeting with all of these programmers beginning in January to discuss the LPAC reviews and strategies for strengthening their programs.

Operations

- Facilities – Carpet donated by Bentley Prince Street, has been installed in PCR, the production office, studio C and the computer room. Most of the left over carpet will be stored for later use in other areas.
- Carpets and vent screens will be cleaned the weekend of December 23rd.
- Air-conditioning – Our main A/C unit that serves the 1st floor studios had a compressor fail, which was replaced. We are looking at remedying one of the causes of the compressor icing up. The ducting from the roof top to the first floor is not big enough to provide the necessary return air flow for our unit to run efficiently. Two vendors have made their recommendations another one is pending.
- MCR has had its old peeling paint removed and has been repainted.
- Equipment – The Phone systems voicemail menu is going through some changes and will be updated before the year's end. The ability to transfer a call from any office phone including the MCR hotline to the on air phone lines has been programmed and implemented.
- Energy Champions – Information on this program was included in the October's LSB report. It has been on hold because it was initially meant to help raise funds for "The Solarize KPFK Project". We have decided to move ahead with the program in any case now, because it was also meant to generate revenue for KPFK and the administrators at Energy Upgrade have been asking if KPFK still wants to participate in the program.
- Production Training – Training will resume next year after the holidays. We encourage all programmers that don't know how to maximize their use of the studio and Cool Edit to take these trainings. Those wishing to undertake the training should RSVP to operations@kpfk.org

Engineering

- Studios – The studios are generally in good condition and repair with few problems.
- Malibu Booster site – During the high winds that we experienced at the beginning of December a tree limb fell on the receive antenna coaxial cable and broke a connector. We are using the test antenna system for the time being until we can replace the broken connector and reroute the coaxial cable on the main receive system. We will continue to monitor the booster to make sure it's operating properly.
- Ranch Bernardo translator site – This translator is working very well.

- Santa Barbara translator site – The translator is in good condition and is operating properly.
- Mt. Wilson transmitter site – The emergency generator maintenance and service has been done. The electrical work will be done during the installation of the new transmitter, which has now been delivered to a storage facility in Glendale and will be moved to our transmitter site before Christmas for installation in January.

Maintenance and repair of the current KPFK transmitters and associated equipment on Mt. Wilson is ongoing.

Business Office

- Financial status as at **December 15** (cf. November 15) –
 - o Total Cash in Bank is **\$397,400** (390,000)
 - o The current balance in the solar project account is **\$23,699**. (Note: this is additional to Cash in Bank)
 - o Total payables stand at **\$90,600** (58,190).
 - o Central Services fees owed to National Office and Pacifica Radio Archives stand at **\$67,500** (42,428).

Bernard Duncan
General Manager
December 16 2011
