

WPFW- LSB Regular Meeting Minutes July 14, 2021

Teleconference via Zoom Washington, DC

Arthur McCloud – Chair, Dennis Williams – Vice Chair

Nick Arena – Treasurer and Ellen Williams Carter - Secretary

I. Call to order started at 6:35 p. m.

II. Roll call

16 - Members that were present: Craig Hall, Eileen Rosin, Ellen Williams Carter, Julie Hewitt, Marsha Coleman Adebayo, Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, Wayne Bruce, Arthur McCloud, Kathleen Maloy, Sabooh Hikim, Ron Pinchback, Thomas O'Rourke, Martha Peterson, Thomas Blanton, Nick Arena, Donna Grimes, and Dennis Williams, Louis Wolf

Timekeeper: Donna Sergeant at Arms: John Tatum

Unexcused absence: Tim Willard

III. The agenda was approved.

IV. The June 9, 2021 minutes were approved.

V. Management Reports

Katea Stitt, Program Director is absent due to illness. She is on medical leave.

Jerry Paris, General Manager stated,

Overall, the station is doing well. The station office and tower rent are paid. Telarep was paid. The next Pledge Drive is August 2-15. KPFT lost personnel. Moe is in Houston, Texas now to stabilize KPFT. The HD project capital expense is \$10,462. We are close to launching HD. Our Neilson ratings are 14 for Saturday and Sunday programming and 19 for programming during the week. Presently, we are looking at other streams of revenue.

Question and Comments:

Thomas B. - Why doesn't Jerry report about finances? Why are we using a phone service instead of volunteers during the drive?

Jerry stated:

My report reflects the health of the station. Until COVID restrictions are lifted, we are using the phone service instead of volunteers. Telarep is efficient in taking data from donors. We aren't rushing to reopen the station since a new variant has surfaced. It could be hazardous.

Dennis - Is there a process for selecting the programming for HD?

Jerry - There will be a discussion after we populate the service. Analog now sounds good and HD will help it sound even better. HD will consist of music, public affairs and a consortium of Universities.

Dennis - What are the decoder options for those who want to use the receiver?

Jerry - Miniature converters are cheap. They cost under \$20. Internet is not under the auspices of the HD channels.

Wayne Bruce - Jerry great job! When we move to HD, will you use a streaming portion in the studio? Jerry - Yes!

Vanessa - Your team is doing a great job!

VI. Finance Committee Report (submitted a written report: See Attachment A)

Nick Arena stated,

There is \$167,000 in bank as of the end of June. The station is staying on budget. Please notify your friends and family about the mini drive August 2 to 15th. The Pledge Drive goal is a \$150, 000.

Eileen announced the 2020 audit has been reissued after Pension liability late fees of \$550, 000 were down to \$8,000. The auditor is satisfied with the information.

VII. Community Comment

Joe Brown - The June Peace Vigil took place at the White House. This vigil has existed for 40 years. We lost two members. Now there are only 4 volunteers. We are requesting members to support our volunteers. They are elders down there. We need help.

Candidates for WPFW- LSB Spoke:

Complete candidate statements and more information about the candidates is available at:

<https://elections.pacifica.org/wordpress/>

1. Sarah Brown feels this is a great opportunity for her to help the very precious jewel WPFW. She loves the talents and the jazz at WPFW.
2. Roz is a native of Washington, D.C. She has a background in media, marketing, fundraising and promotion. She worked with Gil Scott Heron and several others.
3. Minerva Sanders has listened to WPFW for 21 years and enjoys the good music and good conversations. She listens to WPFW 24/7.
4. Maxx Myrick has listened to WPFW for 21 years. He has been a Program Director. He ran XM and XD 4 stations in Washington, D.C. He has 45 years of experience in radio.

VIII. PNB Report

Ron

The New Day Referendum failed. KPFT's station manager resigned. KPFT's property will be sold.

IX. Outreach and Development (submitted a written report: See Attachment B)

The Town Hall will take place on July 31 from 2-4 at Brookland Bus Boys and Poets Bookstore and Restaurant. The 5K walk will take place on September 18. Martha asked the WPFW Delegate Election supervisor, if the candidates could attend the Town Hall meeting. The WPFW Delegate Election supervisor said yes.

X. Programming Committee (submitted a written report: See Attachment C)

Craig Hall reported:

The Program Committee met on July 7th. At that time, they agreed that he would submit a report for April. They discussed ideas for the LSB show and analyzed the New Day results. They discussed programmers concerns about program pre – emptions. Some programmers were contacted about the Programmer's Bill of Rights. Vanessa had questions about the May report so the late May program committee report was resubmitted. Vanessa feels the June report about Jazz programming was based on opinion. Arthur advised the chair of the program committee to revise the report.

Vanessa submitted a Motion to Amend the June Program committee report:

The program committee chair asserted that there has been a decrease in jazz programming due to the replacement of the 2-hour program formerly hosted by the chair on Friday nights.

Motion postponed until the August meeting.

XI. Communication Standards and Enforcement Committee

Vanessa asked, is there going to be an opportunity to discuss the CSE report?

Dennis said the report isn't on the agenda.

XII. Unfinished Business

1. Vanessa's Motion to Amend the June Program committee report.
2. Draft of the Programmers Bill of Rights- presented by Thomas O.
3. Chairs Directives next meeting

XIII. New Business/Action Item Summary

Chair's Action Item Summary

Thomas O. summarized the draft of the Programmers Bill of Rights. He asked LSB members to review it and submit comments.

XIV. Adjourned the regular meeting 10:00 p.m.

Arthur McCloud, Chair adjourned the meeting

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Ellen Williams Carter

Attachment (A) Finance Report

WPFW Finance Committee Report - Monday, July 12, 2021

1. Station Cash Flow Update: Bank Balances were \$167K. This is due to the Spring Pledge Drive raising over \$290K to date on a goal of \$325K. Congratulations and thanks to all the staff, programmers and volunteers! Additional major donor gifts are expected in July thru October. Off-air and other types of fundraising are still needed due to shortfalls in 2019 and 2020. Certain LSB members and the General Manager will be discussing new grant opportunities and foundation going forward. A mini-pledge drive is schedule for August 2-15.

2. 2021 Budget Revenue and Expense Updates: Financial statements are being provided by NETA, the interim CFO to Pacifica who also is providing accounting support to the Station. November statements were available at the time of the report.

PNO estimates that WPFW past due Central Services payments for FY19-20 are approximately \$170K. Additional payments for other expenses from FY19 are estimated at \$100K. The PPP loan funds received by the PNO has allowed the Station to make 4 PNO Central Services payments and PRA Central Services payments totaling \$73K in March. This is the major reason that Actual Expenses were \$44K higher than Budget in March. Lastly, some major donor income expected by April is now targeted by October 1. Additional expenditures (\$10K) to bring the HD Channels online were made in June.

Attachment (B) Outreach & Development Report

Outreach & Development Committee Report July 2021

The Outreach & Development Committee met on Tuesday, July 6th. The following topics were discussed; WPFW Virtual Town Hall - the Town Hall will be held by way of Zoom and will take place on July 31st from 2 to 4pm. Agenda topics will include:

- a. Management Report
- b. Public Affairs - Ms. Cooper, mother of Kwamena Ocran who was killed by Gaithersburg Police, and Marsha Adebayo of Bethesda African Cemetery Coalition
- c. PNB Report
- d. Recruitment for LSB vacancies
- e. Discussion of the survey from last year's WPFW Virtual Town Hall

WPFW 5k Walk/Run - The 5k will be held at Bladensburg Waterfront Park on September 18th from 8am - 12pm. Only 75 people will be allowed to participate as of now. Park Administration will notify us if more people will be allowed.

Possible Fundraiser - a suggestion from a long time listener was made to offer a list of books recommended by guests on public affairs programs as a premium. The list could be copyrighted and should note the subject of books that are not obvious from their title.

Attachment (C) Program Committee Report

Program Committee Report – July 2021

- The Program Committee met July 7, 2021 for approximately 2 hours via teleconference.
- It was agreed that the temporary PC Chair would retroactively submit a Committee report for the April PC meeting since a report was not submitted to the LSB for that meeting. Supplemental minutes for the April PC meeting were approved.
- A prospective agenda for July's LSB meeting was presented that included a post-election analysis of the New Day Pacifica referendum results if permissible, and presentation of information about the history of WPFW.
- A long-time volunteer Programmer who has been in communication with the Program Committee presented concerns about pre-emptive programming that the Programmer feels has been disruptive and implemented without adequate notice. Support was expressed for the implementation of a Programmer's Bill of Rights that would make policies and procedures around programming clear to both Programmers and Management.
- Currently, a representative number of Programmers are being contacted and invited to provide any additional input before the Programmer's Bill of Rights is submitted to the LSB for discussion, amendment, approval or rejection.

Craig Hall, Temporary PC Chair