

KPFT Local Station Board

Minutes March 14, 2018

The Montrose Center 401 Branard, Houston, TX 77006

- I. Rita Washington, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 7:16pm.
- II. Staff Recognition:
 - Robert Gartner: Nibu from Generation Radio and as a contract employee and everyone for work on the Fund Drive.
 - Joseph Davis: Eco-Ology and Bob Gartner.
 - DeWayne Lark: Bob Gartner and himself for his car donation and 10 memberships.
 - Bill Crosier: the staff.
 - Rita Washington: the staff.
- III. Roll Call. P=Present; A=Absent; E=Excused
 1. Adriana Casenave P
 2. Bill Crosier P
 3. Joseph Davis P
 4. Elayne Duncan P
 5. Nick Economides A
 6. Anisa Faruqi P
 7. Rhonda Garner P
 8. Robert Gartner P
 9. Alexandra Hunter A/Resigned.
 10. Wally James P
 11. Jim Krafka A
 12. DeWayne Lark P
 13. Adrienne LaViolette P
 14. Mike Lewis A
 15. Jerry Lynch P
 16. PK McCary P
 17. Susie Moreno E
 18. Rick Potthoff P
 19. Deb Shafto A
 20. KC Sinclair A
 21. Clif Smith P
 22. Rita Washington P
 23. Ted Weisgal P
 24. Vaniecia Williams P
 25. Larry Winters (NV) A
- A. Joseph Davis moved to accept the resignation of Alexandra Hunter and the seating of Matthew Moore: Passed.
- B. Bill Crosier moved to suspend the rules and excuse all absences. Fails 9 to 7 (2/3 required)*. Joseph Davis made a Point of Order that suspending the rules denied those who are waiting an opportunity to serve in an open seat. Rita Washington ruled that the Point of Order would be determined by the outcome of the vote.
- C. Joseph Davis's Point of Order: Bill Crosier does not get a vote. Rita Washington ruled that he could vote provisionally.
 - Adriana Casenave moved to have a roll call vote on B. The motion received more than 40% and passed.
 - +The roll call vote on B above follows:
 1. Adriana Casenave N
 2. Bill Crosier Y?
 3. Joseph Davis N
 4. Elayne Duncan Y
 5. Nick Economides
 6. Anisa Faruqi Y
 7. Rhonda Garner Y
 8. Robert Gartner N
 9. Alexandra Hunter A/Resigned.
 10. Wally James Y
 11. Jim Krafka
 12. DeWayne Lark N
 13. Adrienne LaViolette Y
 14. Mike Lewis
 15. Jerry Lynch Y

- 16. PK McCary N
- 17. Susie Moreno
- 18. Rick Potthoff Y
- 19. Deb Shafto
- 20. KC Sinclair

- 21. Clif Smith N
- 22. Rita Washington
- 23. Ted Weisgal N
- 24. Vaniecia Williams Y
- 25. Larry Winters (NV)

*The roll call vote failed 9 to 7.

- IV. Agenda Approval. Joseph Davis moved to approve the Agenda: Passed.
- V. Minutes Approval: 1. The minutes of the Financial Crisis Meeting 11/6 [moved by Matthew Moore] and the December 12/13 meeting [moved by PK McCary] were postponed to the April 2018 meeting. 2. The January* and February 2018 Minutes were approved.
- VI. Consent Items: DeWayne Lark moved, "Whereas the LSB is charged with assisting the station management in fund-raising, and Whereas the LSB has been accused of not fulfilling this duty, I therefore Move that we activate an open LSB fund-raising committee to meet on March 25, 2018, at a location to be announced to be convened by DeWayne Lark." Passed.
- VII. Committee Reports
 - A. **Finance Committee:** The Chair will be PK McCary. Members include Ted Weisgal, Joseph Davis, Adriana Casenave, and Bill Crosier. The Budget will be provided at the April LSB Meeting.
 - B. **Building Committee:** Chair and Membership Approval. Bob Gartner is the Chair. The Members include Logan Willis, Bobby Modad, and Nancy Saibara-Naratomi. A workday will be scheduled.
 - C. **Community Advisory Board (CAB):** No report. Postponed to April 2018 meeting.
 - D. **Development Committee:** Rita Washington, Convener. Members: Ted Weisgal, DeWayne Lark, Adrienne LaViolette. At the first meeting, the members were approved.
- VIII. Public Comment

The following is a summary of speakers' comments:

 - A. Odus Evbagnarhu is seeking more diversity and more political and current affairs in programming. He can be reached at odus@harrisdemocrats.com
 - B. Vinisha Patel: 1) Address the gag rule that is on tonight's agenda and end censorship on KPFT. 2) What is the diversity of KPFT?
 - C. Nancy Saibara-Naratomi: 1) Don't suspend the absenteeism rules. We need an engineer's report. The HD Channel now has all of its holes filled. Bobby Modad has done a great job. Do innovative programming. Get anonymous reports from people like cops and nurses; air them as unannounced specials. Have an affiliates' hour; we have over 300 of them. 2) I asked Wendy, what is our current membership? I was told under 5,000. We should have access to these numbers; start a Program Council; produce swag to distribute.
 - D. Akua Holt: 1) Thank you for serving. We must deal with hostility and sabotage. The staff attacks people on and off the air. Bill and Rhonda allow it. Marlo Blue attacked me, and Duane Bradley just watched. We need professional standards. We need a think tank to improve programming. Why was Duane Bradley rewarded with \$18,000 after removal, Mr. Crosier? We need to work together; our current format is not sustainable. We need to build community. Mr. Livingston can't fix what we don't address. We have no leadership. Can we engage the community and assess interest? 2) Get out in the community and let people

know we exist. The building smells, the carpet needs to be removed as one aspect of creating a decent environment. Women care. Make KPFT like home.

IX. Pacifica National Board and Committee Reports.

Adriana Casenave: The loan was taken as a short-term loan to reorganize the Foundation's debt.

Joseph Davis: The debt is now new debt that is being reorganized.

Bill Crosier: All options are not being considered. In my opinion, bankruptcy was the best option. A proposed signal swap, another potential solution, has been put on hold.

Adriana Casenave: All options are still open. The debt is the same as it was in 2001, and there are many assets.

Joseph Davis: There is more rumor than fact being circulated. We need to consider all options. It is my hope to keep the Foundation intact.

DeWayne Lark: The loans are expensive, and they are costing as much as bankruptcy would. Metropolitan Neighborhood Network (MNN) – if we give them WBAI for 10 years, will we ever get it back?

Joseph Davis: People are manipulating to get their way. We need to compromise.

DeWayne Lark: It is easier to lose trust than to gain it. Assets have not been frozen by the Empire State Realty Trust (ESRT).

Bill Crosier: They (ESRT) have shown good faith.

Joseph Davis: Tom Livingston, iED, did not say we should use airwaves to promote KPFT programs.

DeWayne Lark: Membership is down.

Bill Crosier: We need more marketing.

Adriana Casenave: We need cross-promoting; organizing is vital. A big problem is saying "Other stations are worse." We need to fix KPFT.

Joseph Davis: My PNB Report was sent to the LSB by email.

DeWayne Lark: I have been involved in 45 hours of meetings, and after that 45 hours I have a plan to raise money. Synergy and energy is mounting. We need a new structure. I am advocating for a face-to-face meeting with the PNB and others in Houston later in 2018.

Bill Crosier: The loan documents are confidential. We, as members of the PNB, will see them tomorrow.

X. Interim General Manager's Report [Larry Winters] No report.

XI. Unfinished Business.

McCary: Whereas, while censorship is not a new phenomenon for the Pacifica Network, having fought the good fight about indecent or profane language (and losing), and Whereas censorship tampers with the mission of being "listener sponsored free speech radio," and Whereas KPFT's current gag order is censorship and the antithesis of "free speech radio," and, Whereas listeners are being kept in the dark, Therefore, Be it Resolved that the current gag order be lifted immediately as it goes against the mission and principles of KPFT.

Matthew Moore moved to amend the motion: "Any programmer facing removal of their program shall have their situation reviewed by the LSB." The amendment passed 9 to 5. Motion, as amended, passed.

Motions to extend the meeting for 15 and 10 minutes passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ted Weisgal
Secretary