

Minutes for the regular National Finance Committee meeting December 12, 2023.

Meeting convened at 8:36 PM (ET) a quorum being present, the Chair and Secretary being present.

Attending: Teresa Allen, Kamau Harris, Julie Hewitt, Kim Kaufman, R. Paul Martin (Secretary), James Sagurton (Chair), Elizabeth von Gunten also attending was Pacifica Executive Director Stephanie D. Wells.

Agenda:

1. Convene Meeting
2. Roll Call
3. Adopt Agenda
4. Chair's announcements
5. Set next meeting date
6. Report from the Executive Director with Q & A (30 minutes)
7. Updates from stations on the status of their budgets and when the NFC may expect to receive them (5 minutes)
8. Minutes (10 minutes)
9. Adjourn no later than 10:15 PM (ET)

Motion: (James Sagurton) "To adopt the agenda." (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Chair's announcements 8:39 PM (ET)

"Tonight we will hear a regular report from Pacifica Executive Director, Stephanie Wells. Please look at any documents posted by National Finance Committee Secretary, R. Paul Martin, on the NFC list.

The Pacifica Affiliates Network (PAN) sent the NFC their Draft FY24 Budget today. The Executive Director said today that the Pacifica Radio Archives can also have a budget ready for review on December 19, 2023. Tonight he Chair will ask the NFC to schedule a Special Meeting on December 19, 2023 to review those two budgets."

Set next meeting date 8:40 PM (ET)

Motion: (James Sagurton) "To meet on December 19, 2023, at 8:30 PM (ET) to review the Pacifica Affiliates Network and Pacifica Radio Archives budgets." (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Motion: (Kim Kaufman) "To notice an executive session for the December 19, 2023, meeting." (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Report from the Executive Director with Q & A 8:54 PM (ET)

The Executive Director told the committee that there had been a request that the Central Services formula be revised. She said that she'd thought that someone from KPFA was going to present a motion to revise the Central Services formula but that hasn't happened yet. She noted that a change in the Central Services formula would affect KPFA and the National Office and the Pacifica Radio Archives (PRA). There was a discussion of the history of the Central Services formulas and the details of those formulas.

In answer to a question the Executive Director said that the next set of consolidated financials would be sent out soon.

In answer to a question the Executive Director told the committee that with regard to PRA a lot of work needs to be done before it can be moved. She said that their archives can't be licensed until they're digitized and that people are looking to see what is Pacifica's and what's copyrighted by others. She said that with PRA's current small Staff they could never get what needs to be digitized done in two or three of their lifetimes. She said that Pacifica needs a partner because we can't do it. She said that Pacifica would need at least \$800,000 to help digitize the tapes of priority for us. She said she was talking to the buyers of the building to see if they'd do fund raising for us. She said that a lot of lot of organizing needs to take place. She said that an incomplete project from about eight years ago was to make a Web site where the archives could be accessed, and that it would have to be completely re-done if we were to do it now. The committee discussed climate control of the places where the audio tapes are stored and what can be salvaged from the boxes of tapes. It was suggested that the Executive Director post possible solutions to the problems associated with the archives.

The committee discussed a \$25,000 stock option donation to WBAI that can't be accepted yet because the bank account where it would have been sent to was closed as part of the move to Bank of America. The Executive Director said that the Bank of America account was set up and we just need the signatures. She said that three parties located in different places across country needed to sign and that the signature paperwork was still *en route* to those who still needed to sign it and that it only has two more stops to go. She said that it should be done in a week to a week and a half.

The committee discussed paintings that have been donated to Pacifica. The Executive Director said that no one has shown an interest in getting them, no museum has said it would take them and that the storage fees are about \$200 a month. There was a discussion of the need of a gift acceptance policy for Pacifica.

Updates from stations on the status of their budgets and when the NFC may expect to receive them 9:54 PM (ET)

The Chair noted that KPFK and KPFT had already presented their draft FY24 budgets to the NFC and they had been sent on to the PNB.

KPFA - No one from KPFA was in attendance.

WPFW - The WPFW Treasurer said that the General Manager had been pulled away from a meeting with the local Finance Committee for an emergency that took the station off air for a time and they did not discuss the budget. He said that a \$160,000 Taxes/Fees mystery charge, the source of which neither the General Manager nor the Executive Director knew about, would be removed from the WPFW draft FY24 budget. He said it was difficult for the local Finance Committee to do its job because it was not getting the information about the station's finances that was needed. He said that for a couple of years he has sought the information he needs but various people keep sending him to other people for that information. He said that because of this the local Finance Committee can't vet the draft FY24 budget.

WBAI - The WBAI Treasurer said that the local Finance Committee had voted to pass on a draft FY24 budget to the LSB which would meet the day after this meeting.

Minutes 9:57 PM (ET)

Motion: (R. Paul Martin) "To approve the minutes of the November 28, 2023 NFC meeting."
(Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Motion: (Kim Kaufman) "In the minutes of the October 24, 2023, meeting to strike 'arrearage on the' and substitute 'current.'" (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Call for the orders of the day: (Elizabeth von Gunten) 10:16 PM (ET)

Motion: (Teresa Allen) "To extend the time for this item and the meeting by eight minutes."
(Passed 4 for, 1 against, 2 abstentions) 10:18 PM (ET)

Motion: (Kim Kaufman) "In the minutes of the November 14, 2023, meeting to add after, 'She said that a lot of the forms that need to be filled out require access to the CPB portal and we no longer have access to that portal so we are trying to get access to that portal again so we can give the CPB the information they want' the words, 'we need to be in full compliance for a full year prior to applying.'" (Passed without objection)

The Committee discussed the motion.

Adjourned 10:24 PM (ET)

Submitted by R. Paul Martin, Secretary.