

KPFT Local Station Board Minutes
January 24, 2018
The Montrose Center
401 Branard, Houston, TX 77006

I. The meeting was called to order by Chair K.C. Sinclair at 7:16pm. She announced that folders were available to the board and members of the community with the agenda plus standing and special rules. She asked people to be on the lookout for an alternative meeting place.

II. Staff Recognition.

Bob Gartner by Joseph Davis for all the work he does at the station; Patrick Hoyt by Bill Crosier for staying overnight at the station and keeping us on the air during the freeze; Bob Gartner and Don Freeman by K.C. Sinclair for getting the PSAs about our meetings; Tony Diaz by K.C. Sinclair for having a meeting to recruit volunteers.

III. Roll Call.

KC Sinclair: Share an adjective that describes an ideal meeting or just say "here."

1. Adriana Casaneve Transparency
2. Bill Crosier Respect
3. Joseph Davis Civility
4. Elayne Duncan Here
5. Nick Economidis Absent Excused
6. Anisa Faruqi Productive
7. Rhonda Garner Efficient
8. Robert Gartner Here
9. Alexandra Hunter Here
10. Wally James Absent Excused
11. Jim Krafka Absent Excused
12. DeWayne Lark Here
13. Adrienne LaViolette Civil
14. Mike Lewis Absent Excused

15. Jerry Lynch Here
16. PK McCary Effective
17. Susie Moreno Here
18. Vinisha Patel-Adams (NV) Absent and notified the body that she did not want this job; that she was resigning. There was no objection to her request to resign.
19. Rick Pothoff Here
20. Deb Shafto Productive
21. KC Sinclair Democratic/Consistent
22. Clif Smith Here
23. Rita Washington Here
24. Ted Weisgal Honesty
25. Vaniecia Williams Here
26. Larry Winters (NV) Absent

There was a motion on the floor to excuse all absences. There were no objections.

IV. Election of LSB Secretary

Vinisha Patel Adams has announced that she wishes to resign as secretary. The chair accepted nominations: Ted Weisgal; Alexandra Hunter (Declined) Ted elected.

V. Agenda Approval

Adrienne, carrying the motion from Susie Moreno (who arrived later): **KPFT Programming is mandated to represent the diverse makeup of the City of Houston and listenership area. During Dr. Kamau's tenure as IGM, a process was initiated to address this mandate.**

Under the new iGM, Programming has taken a turn for the worse - becoming less diverse rather than more. Currently, programming disproportionately favors White audiences with 65% of the programs geared towards European-American listeners. I move that the Programming and Anti-Racism & Diversity Committees be tasked to prioritize this issue and work together to provide recommendations with the goal of bringing diversity back to the station as quickly as possible.

Bill Crosier: Amend and place it at the beginning of New Business: Favor. 5 Opposed 7. Failed. Original Motion to add this motion immediately after public comment: 9-4. Passed.

Adrienne LaViolette: Whereas Article 7 Section 2 of the Pacifica Foundation Bylaws states that "The station's General Manager shall serve as a non-voting member of the station's LSB", and whereas it is the iGM's duty as a non-voting member of the station's LSB to attend LSB meetings as an ex officio member, and whereas article 7 section 3 of the Pacifica Foundation Bylaws states that it is the LSBs responsibility "to prepare an annual written evaluation of the station's General Manager," and whereas Mr. Winters was hired on 7/2017 and has yet to attend one LSB meeting, Be it hereby resolved that Mr. Winters be directed to ensure his presence at each future LSB meeting while serving as KPFT's iGM.

Adrienne La Violette: I move to add this item to the agenda as the second issue after Public Comment: That Larry Winters, the current IGM be required to attend future LSB meetings as required in the Pacifica Bylaws. Bill Crosier: Motion to Amend to place this item under New Business as item IXV A.: The amendment passed, 8-7. Passes. The motion to add this item to the agenda as the first item under New Business passed with 11 votes.

Alexandra Hunter moved to add a motion regarding DREAMers after Public Comment: IX -A. No objection. Passed.

Revised Agenda approved without objection.

VI. Election of LSB Treasurer.

Nominations: PK McCary; Nick Economidis

McCary spoke for herself; Crosier spoke for Economidis. McCary 11; Economidis 5. McCary elected.

Point of Order: Gartner...There is a blower in the room and it's hard to hear. Sinclair: Point well taken.

VII. Minutes Approval:

Motion from Sinclair that we review the following minutes and send changes to the person who wrote them at least four days before the February meeting. Approved unanimously.

Point of Order: Adrienne LaViolette: The recordings of these meetings are not being posted at KPFTx.org. Bill Crosier said he will try to have it done in one week but will have it done within one month. Those recording are for the following eight meetings:

1. August LSB 8/9
2. September LSB 9/13
3. October LSB 10/11
4. Financial Crisis Meeting 11/6
5. November LSB 11/8
6. Crosier Trial 11/10
7. Mark Trial 12/1
8. December 12/13

VIII. Consent Items.

None.

IX-A. New Business (since we got to this point in the agenda prior to the mandated 8pm time for Public Comment, the chair moved the body to the following):

Alexandra Hunter: Version 1: WHEREAS, 16 percent of DACA recipients live in Texas and about 40,000 of these people live in Houston; and WHEREAS, DACA recipients face immediate threat to their stability and well-being; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the LSB Recommends to the IGM that there be an emergency change in programming aimed at advocating for protection of DACA recipients and telling the stories of dreamers. The LSB recommendation is for an eight hour period of programming to be aired on a Saturday on or before February 2nd, 2018, including interviews of members from United We Dream, people who are personally affected by these policies, and experts about immigration.

And the following (Version 2) from Alexandra Hunter:

WHEREAS, 16 percent of DACA recipients live in Texas and about 40,000 of these people live in Houston; and WHEREAS, DACA recipients face immediate threat to their stability and well-being; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the LSB recommends an emergency change in programming aimed at advocating for protection of DACA recipients and telling the stories of dreamers. The LSB recommendation is for a significant period of programming to be aired on KPFT ASAP. This program will include interviews with members from United We Dream, people who are personally affected by these policies, and experts about immigration. Chair's Process: We will have three speakers for and three speakers against. Weisgal objected.

All in favor of the process. Passes.

Williams: Point of clarification...Why the date of February 2?

Davis: I move to approve the second version.

La Violette: Point of Order: We haven't debated the second motion and to vote now negates the three and three rule.

Sinclair: Sustained. We have had two speakers. We will now allow four more speakers; two for and two against.

Casanave: Amend both motions to say: The LSB recommends to the IGM. No objections. Passes.

Debate on this motion was suspended for...

IX. Public Comment (Time Certain: 8-8:30pm)

Jim Sheridan: I received an email from Pen America (www.pen.org) that discusses the Pacifica debt. I am surprised that The Pen is discussing this debt issue and think the article was interesting/informative (if true). I offer to forward to the LSB the article and suggest that The Prison Show participate in the proposed DACA/Dreamer programming, by discussing the role that the Joe Corley (ICE) Detention Facility (Conroe, TX) could play in the DACA/ Dreamer issue.

Nancy Saibara Naritome: We need a Program Council. It's time to establish this committee.

Membership: We need to appeal to everybody. We need to establish a goal, 6,000 or more. We had a good turnout at the MLK Parade and I was videoed at the Woman's March.

Alan Alan Apurim: I attended a Town Hall Meeting in the 5th Ward today hosted by Sheila Jackson Lee and honoring John Lewis. The focus was the need for reform in the criminal justice system. Poor people

are kept in jail while rich people are not. I have a recording of the event and it's available to anyone who wants it.

Carolina Ramirez: United We Dream

We need to focus on 2.1 million youth who are benefiting from DACA including lots from Harris County. Congress will address this issue on Feb.8. KPFT needs to address it now. This is an urgent matter. I want KPFT to devote a day to this pressing matter. Congress is playing with my life and the life of others. Undocumented youth want to tell our stories.

Discussion that began before Public Comment continued:

Motion to recommend to the IGM programming on a Saturday on the subject of immigration featuring the voices generated by United We Dream by January 29.

Jerry Lynch moved to amend the motion to state that this programming occur during drive time. The amendment Passed.

The entire motion as amended passed with 11 votes in favor and no one registering a no vote.

La Violette: Absence of IGM to attend LSB meetings.

Motion from Adrienne La Violette: Whereas Article 7 Section 2 of the Pacifica Foundation Bylaws states that "The station's General Manager shall serve as a non-voting member of the station's LSB.", and whereas it is the iGMs duty as a non-voting member of the station's LSB to attend LSB meetings as an ex officio member, and whereas Article 7 Section 3 of the Pacifica Foundation Bylaws states that it is the LSB's responsibility "To prepare an annual written evaluation of the station's General Manager.", and whereas Mr. Winters was hired on 7/2017 and has yet to attend one LSB meeting, Be it hereby resolved that the LSB direct Mr. Winters to attend LSB meetings.

Motion to end debate: Failed. Debate will continue with three speakers for and three speakers against.

DeWayne Lark: Point of Order: There is no need for a request; this is one of the IGMs duties as stated in the Pacifica Bylaws.

K.C. Your point is consistent with the motion.

Jerry Lynch: Amendment to have the IGM call in to the LSB

Ted Weisgal: Point of Order: This motion violates the bylaw that says the IGM is required to attend LSB meetings.

Sustained. Amendment is ruled out of order.

Motion to close debate...defeated.

Substitute motion to meet on the 2nd Saturday of February at 3:30pm.

Point of Order: Against bylaws and standing rules. Not sustained.

Motion to Meet on the 2nd Saturday of February failed. 8-9.

Motion to direct Mr. Winters to attend LSB meetings passes 8-4.

X. Pacifica National Board Report. [5 minutes each]

A. Adriana Casenave

The PNB voted to approve an escalating bridge loan for 7.5% to pay the Empire State Realty Trust. Our books are in a state of disarray. We need an accounting system that works; now it doesn't. Some stations are spending more money than they have. This is a problem.

B. Bill Crosier

I agree with much of what Adriana has to say but I don't want to blame people. The major reason why we don't have the audits done is because of the lack of funds sent to the National Office. We are facing debts to the IRS and Empire State. I voted against the loan because I don't think a one-year loan of 7.5 for the first six months and 8.75 for the next six months. It's a lot of money. The goal is to get a better loan within the year. Pacifica buildings are the collateral. We are facing bankruptcy by the end of the year. We have a new IED, Tom Livingston.

C. Rhonda Garner:

I voted against the loan. I think we'll be voting for bankruptcy by the end of the year. One of our members on the PNB voted against the audit. I want us to approve the audit so we can comply with the statement from the California Attorney General.

La Violette: Question.

Weisgal: Point of Order.

La Violette: Withdrawn.

D. DeWayne Lark: Thanks for this thankless task. Some the facts of the loan. I voted for it but in the future, I want to see contracts before I vote for anything. I am now further away from bankruptcy than I was when I was elected but we need to raise money. The cabals have been split like the one that involved Aaron and Crosier. Livingston has the power to pick the next IGMs. There is a lot of bull going on at the PNB. We must raise money, and we need to do it nationally.

Pothoff: Are we considering selling 419 Lovett? BC: In Berkeley we're talking about a building worth \$1.2M. We should look at relocating KPFT. AC: The estimates are not transparent. The offers are not clear. I don't know what happened to the money for the audits. DL: We don't know. 22 people must answer that question. Many radio stations rent.

LaViolette: Can PK be on the audit committee and serve as treasurer? Response: Yes.

Lynch: Is Livingston getting paid for two jobs: IED and headhunter? Crosier: Not on personnel committee. Livingston and Assoc. (he's been a GM). He doesn't want the job permanently.

Casenave: We are paying 9% to ESRT. The 7.5% is less. Garner: We have a PNB personnel committee. They did a search. I was on the committee in the beginning. Two people did most of the work. Lark: This was a kangaroo effort. He has a 6-month contract and the PNB makes the final decision on the selection of the new Executive Director.

XI. Pacifica National Board Committee Members 2018:

All positions were filled without the necessity of voting.

Audit: Elayne Duncan and Adrienne La Violet.

COI: Adriana Casenave, Anisa Faruqi, P.K. McCary and Susie Moreno.

Elections: Bob Garner and Rita Washington.

Governance: Ted Weisgal and P.K. McCary.

Programming: Anisa Faruqi and Clif Smith.

Affiliates Task Force: Nancy Saibara-Naritomi and Anisa Faruqi.

Archives Task Force: Nancy Saibara-Naritomi, Adrienne La Violet and Rick Potthoff.

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XII. National Audit Committee Report:

McCary: I was on the call for an hour. We used maestro and it worked. The new chair is Eileen Rosen from WPFW. The audit didn't get an extension and we need to stay on top of who the auditor is. The CFO is nervous about what we have to do. We have do it right. The first auditor we got was through manipulation. We need to keep this process transparent. AC: The company that we hired don't have the personnel to do the job. That's why some of us voted against it. BC was the person who was behind the hiring of this audit company.

XIII. Standing Committee Conveners (in parenthesis)

A. Anti-Racism and Diversity. (convener Stephanie Thomas)

B. Budget and Financial Oversight

1. Review and Approval of 2017-2018 Budget (LSB Treasurer)

Not addressed.

C. Facilities Management and Planning. (Robert Gartner)

D. Governance. (Joseph Davis).

E. Management Selection and Review. (DeWayne Lark)

F. Outreach. (Nancy Saibara-Naritomi) Feb. 6 meeting. Asian Festival Feb. 17. KPFT needs to announce this event. We have gotten free table space. We need to air a PSA.

G. Technology. (Matthew Moore)

H. Development (Ben Perodeau) Feb.6

Point of Order: Weisgal...Committees recommend chairs; the LSB ratifies.

K.C.: Is there anyone opposed to the selection of Nancy and Ben. No objections.

XIV. New Business (these items will be considered at the February meeting).

A. Weisgal: Motion to create a Special Committee to Recruit Candidates from two segments of the KPFT community for the Program Council:

- Programmers
- Members

B. 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.

C. Weisgal: Whereas Bill Crosier publicly stated that he wanted the trial that asserted that he overstepped his authority as interim Executive Director of the Pacifica Foundation in his termination of KPFT's interim General Manager Dr. Obidike Kamau held in public, and Whereas said trial found Mr. Crosier guilty on three charges, and Whereas one of the penalties passed down by the KPFT Local Station Board was binding arbitration, Therefore, be it resolved, that it is unconscionable for Mr. Crosier to now assert that this is a personnel matter and that everything related to the mandated binding arbitration be addressed privately, and be it further resolved that until binding arbitration is resolved, Mr. Crosier shall have all his rights suspended as a member of the KPFT Local Station Board including the right to speak, vote, run for office, or represent himself as an active member of said LSB. PLEASE NOTE: Should this matter be resolved by 7pm on January 10, 2018, I will, of course, withdraw the preceding motion.

XIV. Adjournment

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ted Weisgal
Secretary