

WBAI LOCAL STATION BOARD MEETING

Sept. 14, 2016, 7PM

Committee of Interns & Residents/SEIU
520 8th Ave., bet. 36th & 37th Sts., 12th floor
New York, NY 10018

1. The meeting was called to order by pro tem chair John Brinkley at 7:46 PM

2. Attendance:

* Thomas Barton – absent
John Brinkley – present
Ebon Charles – absent
* Jim Dingeman – absent
King Downing – absent
William Heerwagen – present
* Reggie Johnson – absent
Vajra Kilgour – present
* Ken Laufer – absent
Bob Lederer – present
* Frank LeFever – absent
* Pat Logan – absent
* R. Paul Martin – absent
* Eve Moser – absent
Pauline Park – present
Ralph Poynter – present
* Shawn Rhodes – absent
John Riley – present
Cerene Roberts – present
Sharonne Salaam – present
* Alex Steinberg – absent
Lynne Stewart – present
* Jeremy Taylor – absent
* Bob Young – absent

Berthold Reimers, General Manager – arrived 8:05 PM

* Absent 2016: 1/27, 2/10, 3/9, 4/13, 5/19, 6/8, 7/13, and 8/10.

3. Roberts nominated Pauline Park as pro tem chair. Nominations closed.

Pauline Park is pro tem chair. Roberts nominated Vajra Kilgour as pro tem secretary. Nominations closed. Vajra Kilgour is pro tem secretary.

4. Roberts nominated William Heerwagen as timekeeper. Nominations closed. William Heerwagen is timekeeper.

5. Approval of agenda.

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Call to Order by Pro Tem Chair John Brinkley
 2. Attendance (Roster on reverse) by Pro Tem Sec'y Vajra Kilgour (2 min.)
 3. Election of Pro Tem Chair and Secretary (4 min.)
 4. Selection of Time Keeper (1 min.)
 5. Approval of Agenda
 - ~~6. Excused absences (2 min.)~~
 - ~~7. Review/approval of May 19, 2016; June 8, 2016; and July 13, 2016 meetings' minutes (9 min.)~~
 8. Announcements (3 min.)
 9. PNB Update (6 min.)
 10. Public Comment (10 min.)
 11. GM Report (and Q/A) (20 min.)
 12. Public Comment (10 min.)
 13. Discussion of finances & budget in Committee of the Whole (~~20~~ 10 min.)
 14. Motions re. finances and budget (~~20~~ 10 min.)
 15. Discussion of programming changes and decision-making process in Committee of the Whole (~~20~~ 15 min.)
 16. Motions on programming process (~~15~~ 10 min.)
- Adjourn

Item 6 struck owing to lack of quorum. Kilgour reports that minutes for May 19, 2016; June 8, 2016; and July 13, 2016 are not available; strike item 7. Lederer moves to cut item 13 to 10 minutes, 14 to 10 minutes, 15 to 15 minutes, and 16 to 10 minutes. *Passed* without objection.
Amended agenda *passed* without objection.

8. Lynne Stewart and Ralph Poynter speaking about national elections at 7 PM Friday; On 11/4/16 Black is Back meeting in Washington, DC, to present a black agenda; on October 2, there will be a local Black is Back meeting at Mount Morris Ascension Presbyterian Church, 122nd St. at Marcus Garvey Park.

Roberts points out that 11/9 conflicts with various other commitments of board members, proposes 11/16 as next meeting date; Kilgour proposes 11/2. 11/2/16 *passed* without objection. Stewart points out that LSB October meeting date conflicts with Yom Kippur, proposes 10/19; Roberts proposes 10/5. 10/5/16 *passed* without objection.

Further announcement: 9/24 1pm – 5pm, event at Mount Morris Ascension Presbyterian Church, 122nd St. at Marcus Garvey Park, showing Central Park 5 movie and talking about March4Justice. The city council passed an anti-BDS resolution this afternoon.

9. Roberts made PNB report. Lederer moved to extend by 5 minutes, *passed* without objection. Brinkley moved to extend by 2 minutes, *passed* without objection. Lederer moved:

It is the sense of WBAI board members present tonight that we respectfully request that the PNB reschedule the discussion of the future of WBAI to a significantly earlier time either on September 22 or a later date.

Passed without objection.

10. Public comment: 8:17-8:32

11. General Manager report

12. Public comment 8:55-9:07. Roberts moved to extend by 1 minute, *passed* without objection.

13. Roberts moved to change from 10 to 15 minutes, *passed* without objection. Point of information by Heerwagen: 2 minutes per speaker? Agreed without objection.

14. Roberts moved:

In light of the emergency posed by WBAI's extreme financial crisis, I move that the Local Station Board take up the following motion under the emergency provisions of Robert's Rules of Order for non-quorum meetings (10th edition, p. 337).

Whereas the relationship between the station and its listener-supporters is a primary one and is based on mutual need and trust, be it resolved

That the WBAI LSB strongly urges the General Manager (GM) to adopt a policy that beginning with the proceeds from the second week of a fund drive, no less than eleven percent (11%) of the net proceeds shall be reserved for the cost of premiums for said drive, and further

The LSB requests that by October 5, 2016, the GM present a plan to address the current backlog of premiums.

Second: Lederer. Point of order by Kilgour:

Kilgour: point of order – vote occurs automatically when time allotted to the agenda item is exhausted; ruled well taken. Motion by Roberts *passed* without objection.

15. 9:35 committee of the whole; agreed without objection to limit time per speaker to 1 minute.

Roberts moved to extend for 1 minute, *passed* without objection.

16. Lederer moved:

Motion on Recent Programming Changes at WBAI

In light of the emergency posed by WBAI's extreme financial crisis, I move that the Local Station Board take up the following motion under the emergency provisions of Robert's Rules of Order for non-quorum meetings (10th edition, p. 337).

Whereas the Pacifica Bylaws require programming decisions to be made "in a fair, collaborative and respectful manner to provide quality programming," and

Whereas 49 WBAI producers have signed a petition to immediately reverse a large set of programming changes recently made by the General Manager unilaterally and without any or adequate consultation,

Resolved, that the WBAI Local Station Board strongly endorses the motion passed by the Pacifica National Board Programming Committee on September 7, 2016 which follows, and calls on WBAI General Manager to implement its terms immediately.

(appended motion adopted by PNB programming committee)

Roberts: point of order – we are dealing with the motion. No ruling.

Reimers leaves 10:00 PM

Roberts moved to extend by 10 minutes. *Passed* without objection.

Roberts moved to extend by 5 minutes. *Passed* without objection.

Motion on Recent Programming Changes at WBAI *passed* without objection.

Roberts moved:

Motion to Re-establish LSB Programming Committee

In light of the emergency posed by WBAI's extreme financial crisis, I move that the Local Station Board take up the following motion under the emergency provisions of Robert's Rules of Order for non-quorum meetings (10th edition, p. 337).

Whereas, the station's staff is essential to fulfilling the Pacifica mission and are a tremendous resource to the station, and deserve respect for their time, expertise, and commitment; and

Whereas, the Pacifica bylaws in Article 7, Section 3 (G), state that the Local Station Board must ensure "that station programming fulfills the purposes of the Foundation and is responsive to the diverse needs of the listeners (demographic) and communities (geographic) served by the station, and that station policies and procedures for making programming decisions and for program evaluation are working in a fair, collaborative and respectful manner to provide quality programming"; and

Whereas, the bylaws in Article 7, Section 3 (K) require that the Local Station Board (LSB) must "perform community needs assessments, or see to it that separate 'Community Advisory Committees' are formed to do so"; and

Whereas, the bylaws in Article 7, Section 3 (J) also mandate that the LSB "actively reach out to underrepresented communities to help the station serve a diversity of all races, creeds, colors and nations, classes, genders and sexual orientations, and ages"; and

Whereas, a number of programming changes have occurred over the past 2 weeks absent any consultation with or in some cases notice to affected staff; and

Whereas, no community needs assessments appear to have been involved in determining the changes;

With the passage of this motion, the LSB will have created a Programming Committee that shall include at least three boardmember-volunteers to be identified immediately after the passage of this motion, and where the purpose of the group will be to examine the station's processes for program decisions and program evaluations.

Membership shall also be open to any staff-person or listener upon attendance at the beginning of the second meeting if they were present at the inaugural meeting, but if attendance begins with the second meeting or thereafter, membership shall be granted at the beginning of the third consecutive meeting attended; and said membership shall be lost upon the third consecutive unexcused absence and re-established upon attendance at the third consecutive meeting; and

The Committee shall be convened within 3 weeks by a volunteer boardmember to be identified after the vote on this motion and shall report its progress to the LSB at its next meeting and/or by email prior to that date, if warranted; and further

The General Manager is directed to provide the LSB, by October 5, 2016, the list of all members of the Community Advisory Board and dates of appointments from January 2011 to present, as well as an explanation of the appointment process, including any public notices, in each phase.

Second: Lederer. *Passed* without objection.

Volunteers for Program Committee: Cerene Roberts, John Riley, William Heerwagen; Heerwagen will convene the newly reestablished committee.

Adjourn 10:16 PM