

Minutes:

WPFW Local Station Board Meeting

2390 Champlain Street NW, Washington DC 20009

14 June 2006

Quorum declared about 8:00 P.M., Carol Wolfe serving as Chair.

Board Members present at the call to order: Jim Brown, Acie Byrd, Billy Ray Edwards, Joni Eisenberg, Jane Gatewood, Ayo Handy-Kendi, Ambrose Lane, Dan Logan, Kalonji Olusegun, Zarinah Shakir, Gloria Turner, and Carol Wolfe.

Absent: Cade Campbell, Donnie McKethan, and Mark Roberts,.

Excused Absences: Mark Berman, Joe Chiara, Norberto Martinez, Rob Robinson, and Hakam Takash.

Late Arrivals (between 9:00 and 9:30): Luzette King and Thomas Ruffin.

Also present: Ron Pinchback, WPFW General Manager and Carl Pfluger, LSB Secretary.

[In the 15 minutes before quorum was achieved, The General Manager presented his Report in an informal discussion with the 10 members then present. Mostly concerned with fund-raising woes: last membership drive fell short of goal by \$60,000 (for the first time in 5 years) largely because of donor fatigue/competition/anxiety/apathy, perhaps abetted by a certain staleness in our programming: WPFW's programming schedule has changed little since the time of General Manager Hankins. He distributed a questionnaire in which Board members could suggest additions to the station's public affairs programming.]

Amendments to the Agenda: Billy Ray Edwards moved adding to Old Business a discussion of the proposed LSB "Report to the Listeners" show, and to New Business a discussion of the problems of "LSB Burnout." He observed that the LSB show has been on the Old Business Agenda for about 6 months, and still has never been addressed. Zarinah Shakir then moved bringing Old Business forward on the Agenda, to precede Community Comment. Jane Gatewood moved splitting Community Comment into two 15-minute segments, the first preceding the Committee Reports, the second preceding New Business. Amendments to Agenda were approved without objection, so moved by Kalonji Olusegun, seconded by Ambrose Lane.

Approval of Minutes: Ambrose moved approval of the Minutes of the April 18th meeting (there having been no meeting in May, for lack of a quorum.) Seconded by Jane. Approved, 9-0.

Old Business:

Establishing membership of LSB Committees: Members had previously filled out forms ranking their preferences for committee work. These had been tabulated by Jane, and the distributed lists were read by the members of the Board present, who confirmed which committee memberships they wished to retain. Members listed who were absent from today's meeting were noted as "tentative" members of

their committees, except when a member present reported firm knowledge of an absent member's intent. The confirmed lists are as follows (the Chair/Convener of each committee is indicated by an asterisk):

OUTREACH & DEVELOPMENT: Cade Campbell, Ayo Handy-Kendi*, Luzette King (tentative), Norberto Martinez (tentative), Zarinah Shakir, Gloria Turner, Carol Wolfe.

PROGRAMMING: Joni Eisenberg, Kalonji Olusegun, Rob Robinson, Mark Berman (tentative), Jim Brown, Dan Logan*, Norberto Martinez, Hakam Takash.

TECHNOLOGY: Thomas Ruffin (tentative), Zarinah Shakir, Hakam Takash, Jim Brown*, Kalonji Olusegun.

COMMITTEE OF INCLUSION: Ambrose Lane, Kalonji Olusegun*, Hakam Takash, Norberto Martinez.

FINANCE: Jane Gatewood*, Ambrose Lane, Joe Chiara, Luzette King, Norberto Martinez (tentative), Thomas Ruffin.

GOVERNANCE: Jim Brown, Acie Byrd*, Cade Campbell, Jane Gatewood, Thomas Ruffin (tentative.)

MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT & SEARCH COMMITTEE (MASC): Mark Berman, Jim Brown*, Ambrose Lane, Rob Robinson, Gloria Turner, Carol Wolfe.

Three Members have not signed up for any committees: Billy Ray Edwards, Mark Roberts, Donnie McKethan.

The Chair urged the Conveners to schedule meetings of their committees over the coming month, and to inform all members of the LSB of their times and locations.

PNB Programming Policy: A document concerning this was circulated by Rob Robinson, and placed on the agenda so long ago that most members don't remember it well enough to evaluate it. Jane moved that the Programming Committee should convene a special meeting to review this document, and report on it to the Board. Motion seconded by Ayo, passed without objection.

Election to Replace Resigned Staff Member Kateah Stitt: Joni Eisenberg reported that Damu Smith's death and memorial services disrupted preparations, and that now there is not enough time to hold a special election.

Resolution on Absences: Zarinah Shakir noted that Damu's death was also largely responsible for the absences that aborted the May meeting; and that in general there has been a problem with excessive absences (excused or not) of some members. After some discussion with the Chair, she moved a resolution, seconded by Ambrose, to put a discussion of this problem on the agenda of next month's meeting. Motion passed without objection.

Replacement of Resigned Listener-Member Sarah Bittle: Chair reports that Amanda Sweet, next-highest vote-getter still available for service, has said she'll be ready to begin serving at the July meeting.

LSB Report Show: 15 minutes of discussion, with contributions by Billy Ray, Ron, Jane, Ayo, Acie, Zarinah, Ambrose, and Dan, concluded inconclusively: time ran out before Billy Ray could move a resolution, and the Board voted 6-4 against extending the time.

Community Comment, Part 1: Four speakers addressed the Board: Lamont Nichols, Dorcas ???, Chris Crowder, known as "Brother Chris," and Darlene ???. All urged, with varying emphases, stronger involvement of WPFW with the surrounding community.

Reports to the LSB: Summary statements by the General Manager and representatives of the Outreach, Finance, Programming, and MASC Committees. Common theme of all reports: an appeal for more active and sustained participation in all areas of our work by all members. Jim Brown of MASC had prepared and distributed a "General Manager Evaluation Form" to be returned by Staff and LSB members. Jane Gatewood, seconded by Ambrose Lane, moved adding this evaluation to the meeting's New Business. Motion carried, 7-2.

Volunteer Appreciation Awards Ceremony: Gloria Turner reported that she has been negotiating with the Prince Hall Charitable Foundation to rent their facility (at 1000 U Street NW) for this event. We should be able to get the non-profit rate, and charge \$20-\$25 per ticket. It is scheduled for Saturday, November the 4th, from 7 P.M. to 11 P.M.

Community Comment, Part 2: Two speakers: Brother Chris again, and Jane Jackson of the KPFA LSB.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M. New Business was never discussed.