

## **Minutes for the WBAI Local Station Board meeting in Public Session on January 11, 2023.**

Meeting convened at 7:18 PM (ET) a quorum, the Chair, and the Secretary being present.

Attending: Rachel Barr, Scottye Battle, John Brinkley, Jack DePalma, James Dingeman, DeeDee Halleck, Maxine Harrison-Gallmon, Bounnubti Kamenthou, R. Paul Martin, Basir Mchawi, Hazel Pinder, Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Doc Shya Bey, Max Schmid, Marilyn Vogt-Downey, and Michael D.D. White

Not in attendance: Priscilla Cancar, Jack Devine, William Heerwagen, Katherine O’Sullivan, Errol Maitland, Linda Perry (Program Director), Sharonne Salaam, Andre Ward.

Also Present at the meeting: Berthold Reimers (General Manager) and Kay Williams (Secretary)

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### **Final Agenda as Adopted at 7:20 pm ET WBAI Local Station Board (“LSB”) 7:00 PM ET, Wednesday, January 11, 2023 Meeting Remote Participation Meeting Via Zoom**

1. Convene meeting- (Ask for recording of the meeting to be started and confirm designated time keeper. Note how chat is to be used.)
2. Adopt Agenda. (20 minutes)
3. Roll Call. (5 minutes)
4. Excuse Absences. (5 minutes)
5. Approve outstanding minutes: December 14, 2022 Meeting (5 minutes)
6. Recess to Delegates Assembly.
7. Convene Delegates Assembly to be chaired by the LSB Chair.
8. Adopt previous minutes of Delegates Assembly: Dec 8, 2021 and Feb 9, 2022. (2 minutes)
9. Acceptance of Nominations of Directors for Election to PNB (Voting to follow by Opavote after meeting)
  - a. One Staff Director IRV (10 minutes)
  - b. Three listener Directors STV (15 minutes)
10. Reconvene LSB meeting.
11. Motion Appreciating Staff (5 minutes) — William Heerwagon (4 minutes)
12. Report from Pacifica National Board Directors. (7 minutes & 5 minutes discussion) — Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Sharonne Salaam, Jim Dingeman.
13. Treasurer’s Report. — (10 Minutes report 5 minutes discussion) — R. Paul Martin
14. General Manager’s Report. (10 Minutes report 10 minutes discussion) — Berthold Reimers
15. Programming Updates. (5 minutes report, 5 minutes Q&A) — Linda Perry
16. Report from Community Advisory Board (2 Minutes) – Neale Vos
17. Report on Debating Debates Town Hall Discussions: — (3 Minutes) – Michael D. D. White.
18. Competing Successfully With the Internet vs And/or Becoming Internet Successful - (5 minutes) — Michael D. D. White
19. Discussion: Improving WBAI and Pacifica Reputation and Brand.— (10 minutes) – Michael D. D. White
20. Discussion: Adjournment Time of LSB meeting(s)—(5 minutes) Dr. Shaya Bey
21. Public Comment. (30 minutes, 2 minutes maximum per speaker before next in queue to speak. Must always begin no later than 9:15 PM (ET)

22. New Business. (5 minutes)
  23. Adjourn no later than 9:45 PM. (ET)
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**Call to Order** at 7:18 pm ET

**Timekeeper** Identified as Marilyn Vogt-Downey

**Motion:** (Michael D D White) "To adopt the agenda" Seconded. Passed without objection. 7:20 pm ET

**Roll Call:** (read by Kay Williams) 7:21 pm ET

**Motion:** (Michael D D White) "To excuse all absences" Seconded. Passed without objection 7:26 pm ET

**Point of Information:** (Michael D D White): The best practice is to notify the Board in advance if a member thinks they either will be or may be absent. Notices were received from: Doc Shya, Priscilla Cancar, Katherine O' Sullivan, Maxine Harrison-Gallman, and Linda Perry. The following joined after initial roll call: Doc Shya, Maxine Harrison-Gallman, Berthold Reimers, Max Schmid.

**Motion:** (Michael D.D. White) "To accept minutes from Dec 14, 2022 meeting." Seconded. Passed without objection. 7:27 pm ET

**Motion:** (Michael D.D. White) "To convene Delegates Assembly" Seconded. Passed without objection 7:28 pm ET

**Point of Information:** (R. Paul) "We already approved the agenda and recessing to the Delegates Assembly is already on the agenda. We don't have to approve it twice."

**The LSB meeting recessed to the Delegates Assembly at 7:29 pm ET**

**The Delegates Assembly was adjourned and the LSB meeting reconvened by Dee Dee Halleck at 7:55 pm ET**

**Motion:** (J DePalma) "The entire LSB to vote unanimously to appreciate all staff." Seconded.

The Board discussed the motion, including the absence of the original author, William Heerwagen.

Passed without objection 8:00 pm ET.

**The Board then heard Pacifica National Board reports from Jim Dingeman and James Sagurton starting at 8:01 pm ET**

Highlights:

- Threats from KPFA and KPFK to secede from PNB over money taken out of KPFA's bank account to pay a legal judgment and a motion from the PNB to sell KPFK's building.
- BAI 2023 Budget looks to pass the NFC thanks to Berthold Reimer's presentation at the NFC.

**Motion:** (J. DePalma) "To extend discussion 5 minutes." Seconded. Passed without objection. 8:17 pm ET

**Motion:** (Michael DD White) "To extend discussion 2 minutes." Seconded.

There was an objection and the motion went to roll call vote and passed with 14 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention at 8:28 pm ET.

**Point of Information:** (J. De Palma) The correct number to call regarding delayed premiums is 212-209-2870.

**The Board heard the Treasurer's Report by R. Paul Martin. Beginning at 8:35 pm ET**

Highlights:

- FJC Letter of Credit for \$218K "escrow account offset."
- Discussions happening of selling assets: KPFK's building, signal swapping KPFA and WBAI.

The Board discussed the report.

**The Board then heard the General Manager's Report by Berthold Reimers, beginning at 8:55 pm ET**

Highlights:

- Several Pacifica stations want to learn how WBAI utilizes Great Plains Quickbook.
- He is asking producers to make short entries describing their programs in the archives and to increase their donations 25% over previous 3 months.
- Arthur Schwartz sent a letter to 4 Times Square (the transmitter tower) asking for a rebate for the time WBAI was off the air.
- Looking for new PSA's from the Harlem Chamber of Commerce and the Dept of Sanitation.
- Quarterly report submitted.

The Board discussed the report.

**Point of Information:** (Berthold Reimers) If there is a complaint about the call center, please note the date and time and he can access the recordings and resolve the problem. It would also help if all of Pacifica would use the same call center. Then we would be able to apply economies of scale for a cheaper rate and better service.

**Linda Perry' Programming Updates** were sent by email and are appended to these minutes.

**Point of Order:** (Michael DD White) "It is 9:15 pm and time to begin public comment."

**The Board Heard public comment from listeners.**

Highlights:

- On-going controversy over Department of Health PSA's promoting Covid vaccinations. Both anti-vax and pro-vax positions want disclaimers before these PSA's.
- On-going controversy over extending the terms of 6-yr members. Some reminded the Board that the purpose of term limits is to increase diversity on the Board. Others reminded everyone that all those who serve on the LSB at BAI are volunteers and are not "benefitting" materially

from extending their service. Still others noted suspending elections this year was done by the PNB due to budget constraints.

**Motion:** (Michael DD White) "To Adjourn." Seconded. Passed without objection at 9:46 pm

Meeting adjourned 9:46 pm ET.

Submitted by Kay Williams, Secretary

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Programming Updates from Linda Perry

----- Forwarded Message -----

Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 08:07:16 PM EST

Subject: Linda can't be at lsb tonight pls read to group during my time. Thx!

Hi Shawn, Pls let the group know i'm not feeling well and can't be at the meeting tonight However I have some program updates I'd like you to share— Johanna Fernandez returns to BAi Jan 20th to host the friday morning edition of What's Going On - our popular morning program preceding DN. Welcome back Johanna!!

and we will broadcast the No War in Ukraine MLK rally live on Saturday from the Peoples Forum—

Also on Saturday Bob Law from the streets has been expanded to two hours from 11-1pm.

Talk out of school which used to be at noon saturday is a live show now Sundays at 7 pm and The Grayzone a new program hosted by Max Blumenthal is 6pm on Sundays -which we provide to the network.

Also noteworthy is that Beyond the Pale the Jewish Progressive program has returned to BAi with a young host-/it's on Friday mornings at 9am..

In addition- We have a new NYC Dept of Health PSA which we started playing on monday.

—We are working with Jimmy Dore to have updated programs broadcast at midnight Thursdays.

WBAI has a great MLk lineup planned with many of our hosts and producers participating in special programming on Monday

Finally We have some new interns beginning next week. One will work towards restarting a disabilities in action type program.

Thank you,

Linda