

## **Draft Minutes WBAI Local Station Board meeting in Public Session on May 10, 2023.**

Attending: Rachel Barr, Doc Shya Bey, John Brinkley, Jack DePalma, James Dingeman, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, Maxine Harrison-Gallmon, Dee Dee Halleck, R. Paul Martin, Basir Mchawi, Katherine O'Sullivan, Hazel Pinder, Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Sharonne Salaam, Max Schmid, Marilyn Vogt-Downey, and Michael D.D. White

Not in Attendance: Scottye Battle, Priscilla Cancar, Jack Devine, Errol Maitland, Andre Ward

Also Present at the Meeting: Berthold Reimers (General Manager), Linda Perry (Program Director), Neale Voss (CAB), Kay Williams (Secretary)

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### **Final Agenda**

#### **WBAI Local Station Board ("LSB")**

**7:00 PM, Wednesday, May 10, 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: April 12, 2023 Meeting (5 minutes)
  6. Report from Pacifica National Board Directors. (7 minutes & 5 minutes discussion) - Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Sharonne Salaam, Jim Dingeman.
  7. Report To Note Management Evaluation Committee Composition After Election: Committee is Max Schmid, Andre Ward, Rachel Barr, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, Hazel Pinder, Kathryn O'Sullivan, James Sagurton, and Michael D. D. White. (1 Minute) - Michael D. D. White
  8. Treasurer's Report. - (10 Minutes report 5 minutes discussion) - R. Paul Martin
  9. General Manager's Report. (10 Minutes report 10 minutes discussion) - Berthold Reimers
  10. Discussion: Request that's been made to Program Director to run as a "PSA" a cart that has been furnished to the Program Director to inform listeners how to email the LSB and detailing how those emails to the LSB will then be handled. (3 Minute presentation, 10 minutes Q&A and discussion) – Rachel Barr.
  11. Programming Updates. (5 minutes report, 5 minutes Q&A) - Linda Perry
  12. Report from Community Advisory Board (2 Minutes) - Neale Vos
  13. Resolution regarding functionality of email address for public to contact members of the LSB. (10 Minutes) - Eleanor Elizabeth Forman
  14. Competing Successfully With the Internet vs And/or Becoming Internet Successful and Recent Anti-Trust Litigation Against Corporate Legacy Media's "Trusted News Initiative" + Restrict Act- (5 minutes) - Michael D. D. White
  15. Report on Town Hall Discussions: - (3 Minutes) - Michael D. D. White/Jim Dingeman/Eleanor Elizabeth Forman.
  16. Discussion: Improving WBAI and Pacifica Reputation and Brand.- (10 minutes) - Michael D. D. White
  17. Discussion: Adjournment Time of LSB meeting(s)-(5 minutes) Dr. Shya Bey
  18. Public Comment. (30 minutes, 2 minutes maximum per speaker before next in queue to speak. Must always begin no later than 9:15 PM.)
  19. New Business. (5 minutes)
  20. Adjourn no later than 9:45 PM. (ET)
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7:14 pm ET Meeting convened by Michael D.D. White, Co-chair, at the request of the Chair, Dee Dee White, who stated that she could be present for some of the meeting but not all of it. Listeners were admitted from the waiting room, recording was started, instructions were given re use of the chat.

7:15 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To adopt the agenda as read by the Secretary. Seconded. There were multiple objections.

7:16 pm ET Motion (R. Paul Martin) To eliminate all the wordage after Excuse Absences, as it goes without saying in Robert's Rules. Seconded. Objected to.

The Board discussed the motion.

7:?? pm ET Call the Question (Jack De Palma)

A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 10 yes, 4 no, and no abstentions.

7:36 pm ET Motion (Eleanor Elizabeth Forman) To open the chat citing the need for listeners to “communicate silently” with Board members during the meeting, and for Board members to be able to know how other listeners were responding during the meeting, not just during public comment time. Seconded.

The Chair ruled that this motion was out of order, noting that it had been brought up at two previous meetings and ruled out of order by the chair both times, based on the fact that some participants cannot get into the meeting through their computers but have to join only through their phone and cannot see the chat and hence are left out of these communications. And based on the bylaw that Pacifica meetings shall be conducted by Robert’s Rules and an open chat is the same as people carrying on side conversations during a meeting unrecognized by the chair and hence are against good order in a meeting according to Robert’s Rules.

7:37 pm ET Objection to the Decision of the Chair (Eleanor Elizabeth Forman) On the basis that she had the opinion of a parliamentarian, John Tatum, that a motion previously ruled out of order could be brought up again under certain conditions and stated what she thought those conditions were.

Several comments both pro and con the decision of the chair were recognized by the Chair and heard by the Board.

7:39 pm ET A roll call vote was taken and the Board upheld the decision of the Chair with 10 yes to 6 no, no abstentions.

7:49 pm ET Call for the Orders of the Day. The Motion to adopt the agenda was again placed before the Board and passed without objection.

7:49 pm ET Roll Call was taken with absences as noted above. It was noted that excuses had been emailed to the Chair in advance by Priscilla Cancar and Scottye Battle.

8:04 pm ET Motion (R. Paul Martin) To excuse all absences. Seconded. Objected to.

8:04 pm Et Amendment (Eleanor Elizabeth Forman) To only excuse absences for which an appropriate excuse had been offered in advanced. Seconded. Objected to.

The Board discussed the Amendment.

Roll Call vote was taken and the amendment failed with 14 nos, 2 yes, and 2 abstentions.

8:06 pm ET The original motion to excuse all absences was again placed before the Board and passed without objection.

8:06 pm ET Motion (Jack de Palma) To approve the minutes from last meeting April 12, 2023, sent on May 8, 2023, without a reading of the minutes. Seconded. Passed without objection, with the proviso that a typo how to spell “cart” would be corrected.

8:07 pm ET Report from the Pacifica National Board Directors: Jim Dingeman, Shawn Rhodes, James Saguron, Sharonne Salaam

Highlights:

- After a lot of coordination amongst all the stations, the CPB application was submitted on time on May 8, 2023. Much thanks to all involved, including the ED and Richard Bloomberg, GM at one of our affiliates, who helped train GM’s in what to do. If we don’t get the money, it will help us get an idea of what deficiencies we have to resubmit the application in the future. We have been doing audits for a while now and that was our main deficiency before. Even if we do get the money, it won’t come through for a year. (Jim put the link to the last CPB Guidelines in the chat)
- The KPFK budget indicates they plan to move into a free public space to save rent money while they look for a more permanent space, if and when their building gets sold.

- The WBAI budget is still pending due to some Union negotiations and other cuts that may take place.

The Board discussed the report.

8:17 pm ET Report to Note Management Evaluation Committee Composition after Election. As read by the Secretary, the committee is composed of staff members Max Schmid and Andre Ward; and, listener members Rachel Barr, Eleanor Elizabeth Forman, Hazel Pinder, Kathryn O’Sullivan, James Sagurton, and Micahel D.D. White.

8:18 pm ET Treasurer’s Report (R. Paul Martin)

The Board discussed the report.

8:30 pm ET Motion (Jim Dingeman) To extend discussion to exhaust the stack. Seconded. Passed without objection.

8:36 pm ET Motion (James Sagurton) To extend discussion 3 minutes. Seconded. Passed without objection.

8:40 pm ET Motion (James Sagurton) To extend discussion 2 minutes. Seconded. Passed without objection.

8:43 pm ET General Manager’s Report (Berthold Reimers)

The Board discussed the report.

9:07 pm ET Discussion: Request that’s been made to Program Director to run as a “PSA” a cart that has been furnished to the Program Director to inform listeners how to email the LSB and detailing how those emails to the LSB will then be handled. (Rachel Barr)

The Board discussed her presentation, which was paused in order to take public comment on time.

9:16 pm ET Public Comment

Highlights:

- John Tatum, professional parliamentarian, who has worked at multiple Pacifica stations in the past, noted that there are guidelines in Robert’s Rules 12<sup>th</sup> edition regarding rules for electronic meetings. Basically, the Board needed to have set these rules before beginning electronic meetings in March 2020.
- Carolyn McIntyre, who was LSB Chair at the start of the pandemic, when zoom meetings started, said that rules were set at that time after thorough research, but that, over time, with experience, had to be modified.
- Kim K – from KPFK noted that at KPFK they have two emails, [lsb@kpfk.org](mailto:lsb@kpfk.org) which is for general distribution to the public, and [lsb1@kpfk.org](mailto:lsb1@kpfk.org) which is for private distribution to the LSB members only. She thinks we are doing OK.
- Daryl McPherson – presented an idea to gain more support both in terms of memberships and money. Whenever you like a program, send it to people on your email list to listen to. It is possible to send the link to the recording through kpfk. Or at least send them a notification to listen in and why you like the program.
- Matt Mazza – noted we have 4 hard-working volunteers.

9:39 pm ET After the public comment stack was exhausted, the Board took up discussion of the previous item. There was an informal consensus that there were many issues involved and that it would require more discussion and should be brought up again at the next meeting.

9:45 pm ET The Chair adjourned the meeting and there were no objections.

Note: Since we didn’t get to Linda Perry’s Programming Update, her report, which pertains to this month, will be appended to these minutes. We will also take up the CAB Report at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm ET

Submitted by K. Williams, Secretary

Program updates:

**WBAI had a very successful Harry Belafonte tribute** last Friday and Saturday. The programming was wonderful and with gentle pitching we raised a good deal of funds for BAI.

**PRA:** May 9th Tuesday, WBAI is pitching for the Pacifica Radio Archives all day today, along with PFW and KPFT. They were unable to meet payroll and health care expenses and asked for an emergency funddrive. We were the first to say we'd help out, when I saw hemming and hawing about which day it would be. Mark Torres is hopeful that this day will help PRA meet its expenses.

**Transmitter Maintenance:** On Monday through Friday beginning May 15th, WBAI Radio will be off the air once again due to maintenance at the site of our transmitter at 4 Times Square. We will be streaming a full day of programming at that time from past days. So .. Wednesday's shows from May 10th from 9am to 5pm will stream Monday May 15th from 7a to 3pm. Thursday's programs from May 11th will stream on Tuesday May 16th and so on.

**Tony Ryan:** As many of you know we have lost Tony Ryan, a colleague, friend to many and wonderful radio host of Soul Central Station for many many years. We are presenting a tribute to Tony this Saturday May 13th from 11am into the evening ending at 1am. We will be raising funds to help the family with burial expenses. A cart and promotional social media will be out on very soon. Meanwhile, if you'd like to contribute, there is a [gofundme](#) set up by Tony's family.

**PSAs:** We got a NYC Health PSA renewal for two spots. This will bring in about \$10,000. I will pursue the Dept of Aging next and see what may be possible.

**Fund Drive:** Kathryn Davis is organizing an on air two week fund drive beginning on May 22nd.

**Help needed:** Can the LSB help with Buddy perks for a Buddy Campaign we will launch in June? We are looking for discounts to museums, parks, zoos, book and film clubs, discussions, classes, memberships.. etc..

That's it for now.

Regards,  
Linda