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MINUTES

August 15, 2021

Teleconference

Local Station Board (LSB) Meeting

I. Call to Order / Opening Business 10:55 a.m.

a. Roll Call Taken

Michael Adler, Allan Beek, Fred Blair, Bella De Soto, Jan Goodman, Eric C. Jacobson, Evelia Jones, Barbara Marbach, Michael Novick, James Osborne, Robert Payne, Lydia Ponce, Lawrence Reyes, Rocio Rivas, Paul Roberson, Jeanine Rohn, Mansoor Sabbagh (joins at 12:20p), Oscar Ulloa, Polina Vasiliev, Beth von Gunten.

Moe Thomas the iGM was present. Miquel Calcada incoming GM is present.

b. Land Acknowledgement

Lydia Ponce gave a land acknowledgment.

c. Approve Proposed Agenda – with added 30 secs for each LSB candidate present to introduce themselves.

d. Pacifica Mission Statement - read by Michael Novick.

e. Excused Absences Approved - Ali Lexa, Mansoor Sabbagh, Kiyana Williams.

Also absent is Sandy Childs and Harvey Wasserman (H. Wasserman joined at 1:04pm).

f. Candidates introduce themselves – Sue Cohen-Johnson, Michael Heiss, Maria Skelton, Ralph Hawkins, Ruth Strauss and Marisol Cruz.

g. Appeal for donations – from L. Reyes.

h. Appoint Time-keeper – Rocio Rivas.

i. Set time for future mtgs - not addressed.

j. Set time Certain to Adjourn – 1:30p set with no objection.

II. Report on Previous Business & LSB Elections

M. Novick reviews LSB motion from prior meeting urging the GM to air live candidate forums on the air your KPFK and to urge the Pacific National Board to mandate that for all five stations. He gives recap on when ballots will be distributed and process in general.

III. Review of iGM Report and Discussion –

M. Thomas is no longer available. M. Calcada introduces himself.

IV. Public Comments #1 – (at 11:24am)

V. Finance Committee and Treasurer’s Report and discussion

F. Blair reviews the status of the fund-drive currently taking place. Discussion included M. Novick, B. DeSoto, P. Vasiliev, E. C. Jacobson, J. Rohn, J. Osborne, J. Goodman, L. Reyes, B. von Gunten, L. Ponce.

VI. Public Comments #2 – (at 12:04pm)

VII. Discussion of PNB Director’s Submitted Reports

- a. PNB Directors reports from B. von Gunten (attached), L. Reyes and J. Osborne give verbal reports. Discussion included B. DeSoto and J. Rohn.
- b. Committee of Inclusion reviewed by L. Reyes.
- c. Audit Committee status reviewed by E. C. Jacobson.
- d. National Tech Task Force is reviewed by M. Novick.
- e. PNB Development Task Force – not addressed. B. von Gunten answers questions from M. Novick re: Strategic Planning meetings.
- f. PNB Elections Committee reviewed by J. Rohn and L. Reyes.

VIII. Local Committee Reports

- a. Governance Committee – MOTION passes calling for LSB to meet in closed session prior to the Labor day holiday to discuss the station’s serious financial situation with the participation of the IGM and incoming GM scheduling to be determined by their availability

Michael Adler (Y), Allan Beek (N), Fred Blair (Y), Bella De Soto (Y), Jan Goodman (N), Eric C. Jacobson (Y), Evelia Jones (N), Barbara Marbach (N), Michael Novick (Y), James Osborne (N), Robert Payne (N), Lydia Ponce (Y), Lawrence Reyes (Y), Rocio Rivas (N/A), Paul Roberson (Y), Jeanine Rohn (Y), Mansoor Sabbagh (N/A), Oscar Ulloa (Y), Polina Vasiliev (Y), Beth von Gunten (Y), Harvey Wasserman (N).

YES: 12; NO:7; ABSTAIN: None.

- b. Outreach Committee.

B. DeSoto reviews the committees MOTION which passes unanimously:

Whereas given the current KPFK LSB elections, with a timeline of ballots to be sent out on Monday, August 16, 2021. Yet, the KPFK signal area has no clue what the 38 listener candidates are and their positions. Although there have been some, although there have been some Zoom video candidate's debate recording published on a YouTube channel, this information has not been broadcasted to the station airwaves, on the station airwaves, and many in the signal area have no clue experience the digital divide and cannot access the internet for whatever the reason, be it resolved the outreach committee urges KPFK's management to immediately schedule live on Eric candidate forums to communicate to the listening station signal and such governance system of the bylaws of the Pacifica foundation to educate and such process.

Therefore, we recommend preemption of primetime across the full time a full week on the programming grid effective immediately to accomplish such live broadcasts with open calling from the listeners. This effort will ensure proper judiciary communication with the listeners and membership.

c. Fundraising

d. Programming Oversight.

B. von Gunten forwards 2 motions passed in the committee.

MOTION 1: The KPFK management shall consult listener members in the programming oversight committee in open session with listener participation and input before any major local programming changes are implemented. other means of assessing listener interest priorities and preferences shall also be consulted, including but not limited to appropriate professional listener, metric services, the KPFK community advisory board, the Committee of Inclusion, the KPFK community town hall forum, or town halls or forums, live on air calling programs as well as direct communication from listeners, fundraising metrics shall be one of a number of considerations in determining programming, and not the sole deciding factor.

IX. Public Comments #3 – at 1:32pm

** Time extended for 15 mins to conclude business

Program Oversight Cmte Motion 1 passes LSB w/out objection.

MOTION 2: the KPFK programming oversight committee requests that all pre-recorded and or rebroadcast programming be identified as such, before and after each broadcast along with the original date of production. (passed w/out objection)

e. Fundraising Committee – Convening the committee meetings is discussed w/ R. Payne.

f. Community Advisory Board – B. von Gunten reviews the 1st committee meeting and the upcoming meetings.

X. New Business

MOTION passes w/out objection: KPFK LSB calls on station management to immediately provide a report assessing whether a complete membership list has been properly forwarded for balloting in the current Local Station Board election.

XI. Adjourn

PNB Director's Report to KPFK LSB
Director Elizabeth von Gunten
August 15, 2021

Pacifica continues to enjoy the benefits of improving financial self discipline. Our contract with NETA is bringing a necessary and very welcome internal regularity to our internal business administration, establishing routine business practices, clarifying and bringing past accounting up to date, and lay out an orderly path into strategic planning and a more predictable future.

As a consequence, Pacifica's overall financial prospects continue to improve, with KPFK being the single notable exception in that regard. Pacifica FY2020 audit and our 501(c)(3) IRS 990 reporting have both been completed, with all audits now up to date for the first time since 2012. Timely completion of future audits will be greatly facilitated with this previous work now in place.

Newly available Pacifica pensions information has resolved outstanding concerns regarding Pacifica pension funding, thus lifting a disclaimer regarding previous arrearages, bringing what was a possible debt of upward of \$500,000 down to an actual debt of only about \$8,000, greatly alleviating our most immediate financial pressure.

Work has been completed on six of the eight Pacifica financial unit budgets. A KPFK FY21 budget is expected to be approved at the next NFC meeting in time to use it as a starting point and template for a timely FY22 budget. With budgets in place for all seven operational Pacifica units, a National Office budget will be the final piece.

It has been a major effort to resurrect a standard budget process across the networks, but having these initial budgets in place this year provides a sound starting point and template for a return to more regular business practices into the future. Adopting such practices has assured that we were able to qualify to extend the crucial JFC loan on good terms. We continue to service the loan on time and without interruption.

In addition, the federal government, recognizing its vested interest in assuring the ongoing viability of critical infrastructure such as radio communications throughout the roughest stretches of the pandemic, took bold action to support and protect a broad array of such community assets, including Pacifica, to our great good fortune.

It is to the advantage of the community as a whole for institutions such as Pacifica to continue to operate without interruption throughout any major material, economic, or social disruption such as the pandemic. The PPP funding we qualified to receive functioned as it was intended, to stabilized strategic community assets across the country. Pacifica was by no means the only beneficiary to have benefited from this foresight.

Other current financial work deferred to allow completion of the audits has resumed, resulting in increasingly current financials for most recent months.

There are concerns at the national level about the ongoing crisis at KPFK having consequences for the network as a whole. Finance, programming, personnel, and

management are all showing the effects of being left in limbo for months as our local situation deteriorates.

Directors of any nonprofit such as Pacifica bear a fiduciary duty, a legal obligation to do all within our power to promote the best interests of Pacifica. We also bear a legal duty to warn of any perceived dangers to the institution.

While I appreciate the necessary self examination undertaken by our critics, publicly disparagement of internal challenges can have the unintended consequences of undermining the prospects and credibility of the institution we all love and which we are legally bound to defend and protect.

Any sincere critique should avail itself of the profoundly inclusive, participatory, democratic processes provided within Pacifica governance and should rightly be accompanied by a commensurate internal effort to correct perceived inadequacies.

This monthly Report is intended to keep all apprised of my own such efforts, and as an invitation to all to look for an opening in which you can bring forth your own gifts, whatever they may be, to support Pacifica in its hour of need.

Over the course of the last month I've attended all local and national board, committee, and task force meetings in which I'm responsible to represent the KPFK LSB and listeners including all Pacifica National Board meetings, National Finance Committee and Strategic Planning Committee meetings.

At my request, the Pacifica Development Task Force has reconvened and is now slated to meet Monday, August 23, 2021, at 5:30pm PT, and regularly thereafter. I'm working with the chair to develop a strategic development plan.

The Pacifica National Technology Task Force has begun meeting regularly for presentations and discussion of how best to configure Pacifica to meet the needs of the future.

In addition, I've been attending the National Bylaws Task Force.

I was recently asked to address the Pacifica Affiliates Roundtable on Pacifica's role in Emergence Response, beginning with regular Public Service Preparedness Announcements. We've begun to stand up a Pacifica Resilience Work Group to meet on an ongoing basis.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns about our work at the national level now or at any time throughout the month and I'll do my best to respond.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth von Gunten KPFK
LSB, PNB Director