

Minutes of the KPFK Local Station Board Meeting - June 9, 2007

A regular meeting of the KPFK Local Station Board was held on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at the Echo Park United Methodist Church, 1226 Alvarado Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026. Jack VanAken served as Chair, and Adriana Gomez (upon election) served as Secretary. The minutes of April 7, 2007 and May 2, 2007 were approved.

Nineteen Delegates were present: Grace Aaron, Lydia Brazon, Israel Feuer, Sherna Gluck, Jan Goodman Terry Goodman, Ian Johnston, Kimberly King, Tracy Larkins, Ali Lexa, Reza Pour, Margaret Prescod, Jack VanAken, Fernando Velazquez, Steve Weatherwax, Don White, Gabrielle Woods, Yosh Yamanaka and Lamont Yeakey

Also present: Secretary Adriana Gomez

Also present: General Manager Eva Georgia and Development Director Sue Welsh

One member was absent: Rodrigo Argueta

Four members were excused: Dave Adelson, Yolanda Anguiano, Bill Gallegos and Arturo Lemus

Authority and Notice: This meeting was authorized by the LSB by a motion approved at its meeting of February 10, 2007. Specific notice was posted on the KPFK website beginning on May 25, 2007 (see Appendix A).

I. Comments by the Chair

Comments by LSB Chair Jack VanAken were **delivered**.

II. Call to Order, Welcome and Acknowledgements, Call of the Roll, Motion for Excused Absences, Review and Approval of the Agenda, Approval of Minutes

Motion to excuse the absences of Dave Adelson, Yolanda Anguiano, Bill Gallegos and Arturo Lemus

Approved without objection.

Motion to excuse the absences of Lydia Brazon, Bill Gallegos, Sherna Gluck, Jan Goodman, Arturo Lemus, Lamont Yeakey for the May 23, 2007 special meeting of the LSB, which failed to meet quorum.

Approved without objection.

Agenda **approved** as amended [see Appendix B].

Gluck **moved** to approve minutes of April 7, 2007.

Motion **approved** without objection.

White **moved** to approve minutes of May 2, 2007.
Motion **approved** without objection.

III. Appointment of Secretary

Adriana Gomez **appointed** Secretary by acclamation.

IV. Unfinished Business

a. PC Election timeline proposal

King **moved**:

Motion for Revised Timeline for Election of KPFK Program Council

Whereas the LSB previously adopted a motion to have a folio-conducted election of a KPFK Program Council by June 11, 2007;

And whereas that timeline was deemed not feasible by the General Manager of KPFK because there will also be an LSB election in 2007, therefore,

Be it resolved that the LSB adopt a new Program Council election timeline where nominations will be solicited by no later than March 15, 2008 and the balloting be completed by no later than June 6, 2008.

Be it further resolved that all other components of the previously adopted motion be maintained.

Motion **passed** by roll call vote.

Y - 9, N - 1, 6 - Ab (2/3 required)

(Y Gluck, King, Lexa, Pour, Prescod, Velazquez, Weatherwax, White, Yamanaka, Yeakey

N Feuer

Ab Aaron, Brazon, J. Goodman, T. Goodman, Larkins, Woods)

b. Letters from Staff

Lexa read letters, one from the Union Staff, and one from unpaid programmers and producers [see Appendix C.]

J. Goodman **moved** to enter executive session.

Ruled out of order, per Bylaws Article Seven, Section 3(M) and on advice from General Counsel to avoid actions pertaining to 2006 GM Evaluation as potentially injurious to the Foundation.

Aaron **appealed from the ruling of the chair**.

Failed by show of hands.

Y -11, N - 4, Ab - 3

Motion to include the letters in the record.

Mooted, the letters were explicitly read into the record.

Johnston **moved** to exclude the letters from the minutes.

Motion **failed** by roll call.

Y - 6, N - 7 , Ab - 5

(Y: Brazon , T. Goodman, Johnston, Larkins, Pour, Velazquez,

N: Aaron, Feuer, J. Goodman, Lexa, Woods, Yamanaka, Yeakey

Ab: Gluck, King, Prescod, Weatherwax, White)

J. Goodman **moved** to amend agenda to include 15 minute item on public statements relating to the staff letters during fund drive.

Approved by show of hands.

Y - 11, N - 4 , Ab - 1

Motion by J. Goodman to waive the board rule on public comment and allow debate to continue following public comment.

Passed without objection.

20 minutes of public comment was **heard**.

Prescod **moved**: The fund drive is not to be used by on-air programmers and/or producers to issue statements that relate to concerns stated in the the letters dated June 2007, which could undermine the Foundation's and fund drive's purposes.

Motion **approved** by roll call.

Y - 12, N - 1, Ab - 4

(Y: Brazon, Gluck, J. Goodman, King, Larkins, Pour, Prescod, Velazquez, Weatherwax, White, Woods, Yeakey

N: T. Goodman

Ab: Aaron, Feuer, Johnston, Lexa)

c. Scheduling a special closed session LSB meeting

Special LSB meeting with ED & CFO **scheduled tentatively** for Friday June 15th.

d. Accessibility

Don White **delivered** an oral report.

Public comment was **heard**.

V. GM Report w/ Q&A

Eva Georgia **delivered** a General Manager's Report and submitted a written Web Report [see Appendix D.]. Q&A followed.

Fernando Velazquez **delivered** a News Director's report.

Ali Lexa **delivered** a Webmaster's report.

Treasurer Terry Goodman **announced** that the Finance Committee meeting will take place on June 21st upstairs at the station.

Prescod **moved** to adjourn.

Motion **approved** by show of hands.

Y - 10, N - 4, Ab - 0

Submitted by Adriana Gomez, LSB Secretary

These minutes were approved 7/11/07.

Appendix A - Meeting Notice

The KPFK Local Station Board will meet on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the Echo Park United Methodist Church, 1226 Alvarado Street, one long block north of the intersection of Alvarado St. and Sunset Blvd. A map to the church is available at www.mapquest.com by writing in the address and zip code 90026. The public is invited.

Jack VanAken, KPFK Local Station Board chair
661-755-2590 jackv@123mail.org This email address is being protected from spam bots, you need Javascript enabled to view it

Refs: http://www.kpfk.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2942&Itemid=100 http://www.kpfk.org/index.php?option=com_events&task=view_detail&agid=1824&year=2007&month=06&day=09&Itemid=63 <http://disc.server.com/discussion.cgi?disc=165346;article=39517> <http://disc.server.com/discussion.cgi?disc=203188;article=10106>

Appendix B - Proposed Agenda

KPFK LSB MEETING

June 9, 2007 1 p.m.

Echo Park United Methodist Church
1226 North Alvarado St., Los Angeles, CA 90026
-proposed agenda-

I. Comments by Chair [7 mins]

II. Call to Order

Welcome and Acknowledgements

Call of the Roll

Motion for Excused Absences

Review and Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes

[total: 10 minutes]

III. Appointment of Secretary [10 minutes]

IV. Unfinished Business

a. PC Election timeline proposal [15 minutes]

V. GM Report w/ Q&A [20 mins]

VI. Standing Advisory Committee Reports: [A] Governance - 30 mins

[B] Outreach (including Town Hall Report) - 20 mins [C] Personnel - 15 mins

[D] Finance - 15 mins [E] Programming Oversight - 5 mins [total: 85 minutes]

VII. PNB Directors reports [15 minutes]

VIII. New Business [10 minutes]

IX. Public Comment [10 minutes]

X. Announcements/Adjournment [3 minutes]

(Consistent with Board Policy the Chair will call for Public Comment at various points in the agenda. Any unused portion of the 30 minutes assigned to Public Comment will be used in Agenda Item IX.)

[total 185 mins = 3 hours 5 mins]

Appendix-C

[This document is not official, is for information only, and does not represent an endorsement by the Local Station Board.]

To: Pacifica Executive Director Greg Guma, Eva Georgia, Pacifica National Board Members and the KPFK LSB

On Wednesday June 6th 2007,

AFTRA bargaining unit members at a clearly noticed meeting, voted (13y, 6n, 1 abs) to make a statement of "No Confidence" in KPFK General Manager Eva Georgia.

While we are committed to the Pacifica Mission and to raising as much money as we can in the upcoming fund drive, we are extremely concerned by the managerial decisions and judgements made at the station and pending legal actions against the General Manager, KPFK and Pacifica.

TO: Greg Guma, the Pacifica National Board, and the KPFK Local Station Board

FROM: the undersigned

We programmers, and producers of KPFK agree to the following:

Our ultimate aim in our relationship with KPFK and its listeners is the ongoing and excellent fulfillment of the Pacifica mission.

To that end, it is our aim that KPFK fulfill its potential as a progressive, listener-sponsored community, whose primary assets are: (1) a 112,000 watt broadcasting signal, (2) a decades-long history of contributing to an informed and involved citizenry, (3) dedicated, talented, professional staff and programmers, (4) informative, challenging, and inspirational programming, and (5) an involved community of listeners and listener-sponsors.

Given the ongoing sexual harassment suit against the General Manager, we believe that it is economically and ethically wrong to raise money from KPFK's listener-sponsors, without full disclosure of the potential financial costs of defending the General Manager or of paying a legal settlement, in the event there is one.

Given reports of financial improprieties and/or waste and/or excess on the part of the General Manager, in order to assure transparency and full disclosure in our relationship with listener-sponsors, we call for an investigation of these matters.

We believe our calls for disclosure and transparency have a moral as well as legal basis. It is unacceptable to preach the politics of justice and integrity while tolerating or covering up unacceptable or potentially criminal behavior within the station.

At this time when so much of the media is failing to meet its responsibility to inform the citizenry, we find ourselves in a moral quandary. We feel the need to raise funds to sustain and strengthen the ability of KPFK to fulfill its mission. At the same time we believe (1) funds raised from our sponsors must be efficiently and effectively dedicated to mission fulfillment, and not siphoned off for the defense of the questionable behavior of station personnel; (2) we owe our listener sponsors full disclosure of any potential that their contributions might be allocated to such non-mission expenses.

We believe that to fund-raise from our listeners in order to pay for the lawsuit (or potential settlement) involving Eva's alleged misconduct would be a betrayal of the public on our part. Our listeners and supporters contribute to make it possible to get the real news about the war and the galloping threat to our democracy. They also contribute to upgrade the station's broadcast signal and programming. Plainly, they do not contribute for the purpose of paying legal fees for alleged misbehavior by a manager at a station.

We ask that the LSB and Pacifica respond to our views with seriousness and in a timely manner, and that they take actions that will satisfy our calls for transparency and integrity in our relationships with listener sponsors.

We are willing to work with both bodies to arrive at such actions.

The possible courses of action include the following:

- the KPFK and Pacifica Boards agree to separate out the (potential) costs associated with the General Manager's legal case from the regular fundraising.

- any funds used for expenses associated with the lawsuit involving alleged sexual harassment actions of Eva Georgia should be raised privately, and that the station's funds not be used for this purpose.

- in the light of negative press accounts of a poisonous atmosphere at KPFK and charges of embezzlement and sexual harassment, on-air fundraisers shall be permitted to assure the listener/sponsors that their contributions will not be used for legal expenses relating to the lawsuit involving the General Manager's alleged conduct.

- that the General Manager be placed on unpaid leave until her legal case is resolved.

- that since the General Manager's expense account from 2005 indicates a number of personal expenses, double billings, etc., we believe her jurisdiction over funds raised for the station should be suspended until this situation can be investigated and resolved or explained; and

- any money raised be held in escrow until an impartial Committee is chosen to oversee its use.

We look forward to your timely response, to healthy and open communications and negotiations between us, to satisfactory solutions to the current situation, and ultimately to our mutual success in pursuit of our shared mission.

Sincerely, (alphabetical order)

Ric Allen

Maria Armoudian

Don Bustany

Lila Garrett

Debo Kotun

Maggie LePique

Ian Masters

Terrence McNally

Sergio Mielniczenko

Barbara Osborn

Derek Rath

Yatrika Shah-Rais (I do not think it is ethically right not to inform our listeners how their money is being used. And it is very embarrassing to go into fund drive asking for money and telling people that their money will be used towards a sexual harassment suit. I would like to add that it is very important that KPFK's year end financial information always be made available to the public.)

John Schneider

Barry Smolin

Suzi Weissman

Roy Ulrich

Jon Weiner

and another 14 programmers and producers who wish to remain anonymous

Appendix D - General Manager's and Web Report

Local Station Board

KPFK Radio 90.7 FM, Los Angeles

Eva Georgia, General Manager

June 2007

GENERAL MANAGER:

Staff Evaluations:

Annual Evaluations for all Staff and Managers have been conducted and completed. The deadline was set for April 30, 2007. All Staff and Managers have been given an additional week to provide written responses to be added to their evaluations if they so choose.

Santa Barbara:

The KPFK translator updates and rebuild is proceeding and equipment has been ordered.

Depending on equipment delivery, the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of

May 2007.

Malibu Booster:

We are continuing our search for a building to house the KPFK Malibu booster. No equipment has been ordered as of yet. I am in the process of following up on contacts

for the three sites that was identified by Don Mussel.

Union Contract:

The three-year contract expires October 2007. The Union and KPFK Management are set to meet May' 24 to have our first preliminary discussions about possible contract changes. Dates for ongoing contract negotiations will be set at that meeting.

ADA Compliance:

We are awaiting the report from Francie Moeller. In the meantime, the station has repainted the lines in the parking lot and provided an appropriate disability parking space, which required giving up one of our regular parking spots.

Finances:

We are in the process of producing a draft budget that will be submitted to the LSB at the June' 07 meeting for review. Management met with all departments to solicit their input for the budget. The next step is to get input from unpaid staff.

Over Expenditures:

Finance staff is taking a more active approach in reviewing budget versus income on a monthly basis in order to ensure fiscal responsible spending. Currently the news department has overspent their budget by 22% mostly relating to stringer fees. Over the last couple of weeks, a new policy and procedure has been put into place to ensure that News Directors operate within their budget.

PROGRAMMING:

Programming Department Announcements

- KPFK Radio lost two members of its community this month, first with the passing of Folkscene host and producer Howard Larman, and finally with the passing of Stanley, the husband of Uncle Ruthie Buell of Halfway Down the Stairs. Our deepest condolences go out to our programmers Roz Larman and Ruthie Buell in their grief.

Programming Department Administration & Policy

- Program and programmer evaluation templates (as per the templates provided by National collaborative efforts from public and community radio station across the country) have been presented to the Programming Oversight Committee (Monday, May 7th) and the Interim Program Council, as well as members of the staff and programming department. All parties have been asked to provide their feedback before a final version is issued for consideration and distribution. Neither committee of the LSB as of the date of this report, have completed the request for comments and feedback.

- At the March 2007 meeting, the ProC introduced a discussion regarding the creation and implementation of a policy on the broadcast of commentaries on all KPFK

newscasts. At a joint meeting of the PrOC and the iPC on May 7th, the Program Director introduced policy language to the bodies for discussion and consideration, with the request to deliver feedback by the next meeting for the approval of a final draft. Neither committee of the LSB as of the date of this report, have completed the request for comments and feedback..

- The summer fund drive will begin on June 12 and the KPFK programming department has re-introduced several new programmers previously pre-empted. The programming department will continue to introduce and alternate new participants/programmers to the fund drives. Training material and verbal orientation will be coordinated on an individual basis working with individual programmer strengths and weaknesses.
- All station programmers have been “reminded” of the implementation of the Pacifica National Programming policy regarding the Profanity and Indecency policy passed by the board earlier this year. All programmers have been asked to provide feedback and additional points of discussion as per the request of the National Programming Committee for further review and discussion. To date, less than 2% of the overall programming base has responded. The policy has been generally accepted.
- The programming department has begun preparations for the 2008 coverage of the Presidential, State and County-wide Elections.
- The programming department will begin the official collection of data from paid and unpaid staff on June 1 for the Fall Local Station Board election, in accordance with requirements set forth by the LSB Election Coordinator.

Educational Initiatives & Programming Outreach

- Training Ground (Music slot 2am-5:30am Mondays)
IPC-recommended music shows Indica (hosted by Varun Soni) and On Contact (hosted by Seema Kapur), who completed their two-month training cycle. They will each go into a monthly rotation in the Monday 2am-5:30am timeslot, after Rise and before Informativo Pacifica. Varun Soni has been checked out in PCR and board operation and has completed 4 live shows with the assistance of a trainer (an experienced music programmer). Varun will have his first solo show on Monday, May 7th. Seema Kapur has completed nearly all of her training, and will do a solo show starting June 18, 2007.

We look forward to formalizing this training protocol in order to request funding for the trainers involved.

- KPFK Town Hall Meeting
KPFK and the Local Station Board held a Town Hall Meeting in at the I.B.E.W. union hall in Westchester on Saturday, May 19, 2007. This was a well-organized event with refreshments and information booths. The panel of speakers consisted of KPFK

Management (Eva, Armando and Sue), staff (Fernando Velasques, News Director) and Volunteer Programmers.

Special-Focus Programming

- KPFK Broadcast the May Day / The Great American Boycott II from downtown Los Angeles on Tuesday, May 1 from 1pm - 5pm (including Spanish coverage from 3:30pm to 5:00pm). This broadcast went well, while the afternoon march in MacArthur Park did not. The police actions which erupted in MacArthur Park were reported on the newscast later that day. KPFK followed up with programming on subsequent days dealing with the issues of police brutality and immigration policy reform.
- May 9, 2007. Rhapsody in Black with Bill Gardner presented a 3-hour special focused on the political and artistic legacy of James Brown, on the anniversary of his birth.
- A second cycle of two serial programs focused on nutrition and environmentalism continues: Page to Pantry (a nutrition and healthy lifestyle radio show designed to educate children, parents and caregivers about childhood obesity and access to healthcare, particularly in underserved communities and communities of color); and Healthy Me Healthy Planet (a program dedicated to bringing the latest facts on the environmental that have a direct impact on our health and well-being).
- In response to the stepped-up ICE raids on undocumented workers and mass deportations, the locally produced 2-minute PSA called "Know Your Rights" (Conozca sus derechos) is still running in Spanish, featuring the voice of Chicago immigrant activist Flor Crisostomo, recorded by KPFK's Ruben Tapia. An English-language text has been developed and checked with the Lawyers Guild Jim Lafferty for accuracy. This promo will be produced and ready for launch after the KPFK June Fund Drive.

Upcoming Remote Broadcasts

- No broadcasts are scheduled for the rest of May and June, due to the KPFK June 2007 Fund Drive.

DEVELOPMENT (5/31/07:

2006 February Fund Drive Summary:

Fulfillment: Payment in: \$871,158 Pledges paid or 81.4 % per \$1,070,369 pledged
Premium shipment: 8820 Items mailed or 98%

2006 Spring Fund Drive Summary: June 13- June 25 (Extended to June 29 to meet goal)

Fulfillment: Payment in: \$885,668 Pledges paid or 81.8% per \$1,082,461 pledged
Premium shipment: 8471 Mailed, 97% fulfillment
Pledged Web: \$31,777 Web Pledges only: 301

2006 Fall Fund Drive Summary: October 10-October 23 (Extended 2 days to meet goal)
Fulfillment: Payment in: \$875,782 Pledges paid or 82.3% per \$1,063,904 pledged
Premium shipment: 7982 Mailed, 96% fulfillment
Pledged Web: \$25520 Web Pledges only: 209

2007 February Fund Drive Summary (Extended 2 days to meet goal):
Fulfillment: Payment in: \$845,917 Pledges paid or 79.6 % per \$1,062,144 pledged
Premium shipment: 7734 Items mailed or 92% fulfillment
Pledged Web: \$47,303

Major Donors (non-Fund Drive; unsolicited, or responses to Major Donor mailings):
\$28,550. (since Oct 1, 06)

Direct Mail:

- April 2007 Direct Mail Response = \$18,627
- November 27, 2006 Direct Mail = \$34,977
- August 28, 2006 Mail drop: Final Direct Mail of Fiscal 2006
(inc. Survey funded by CPB) = \$29,016
- July 2006 Mail drop on 7/24/06 = \$36,428
- April 2006 Direct Mail Response = \$35,412

12/18/06 Anonymous donation of stock: \$1963.06 value

Car Donation:

Total since active promotion of program in May 2005: \$110,333.06 as of 5/16/07
(Note: Beginning Fiscal year Oct.1.06-07 through May 16, 07- we have received \$61,728.00)

Project: Recycle/refiller empty inkjet and toner cartridges:

Please alert Sue Welsh if you know a business that would place a KPFK Box at their location. Full Circle will also service that business, pick up at "no charge" and credit KPFK.

Voices of Tomorrow Training:

The final report was submitted on May 1 to Community Technology Foundation of California by development director. Management is reviewing the program with the training coordinator for future grant proposals related to training opportunities for youth.

Major Donors:

Major donor event held at 7pm at the station on May 16. Good turnout. Thank you notes sent to attendees and those who could not attend. Dessert/Light refreshments served and a tour of station included. Some donors recorded their feelings about KPFK. Positioned as

“Meet and Greet” major donors to present vision as KPFK moves toward 50th Anniversary. Preparing for July 21, donor event in San Diego at the home of Gabrielle Woods’ sister in San Diego and date yet to be set in August in Santa Barbara. LSB member Gabrielle Woods is actively working with Sue Welsh and GM on this project.

Grant Proposals Pending:

1. CPB: Proposal Submitted December 28, 2006 to CPB Radio Major Market Service Extension Project in the amount of \$75,000 for a community outreach project to create unique content utilizing youth trained under “Voices of Tomorrow” grant. No answer as of May 30.
2. CPB: Proposal submitted Feb. 28, 2007 to develop new talent from underserved communities, especially youth, women and persons with special abilities incorporating environmental issues to produce and host online programming over a three-year period. \$129,990. No answer as of May 30.
3. NEA Collaboration with Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum submitted by Theatricum Botanicum on 8/14/06. No answer as of May 30.

Grant Proposals:

California Council for Humanities for KPFK Radio Documentary project: Born in California: Lewis Hill and the Invention of Listener-Supported Radio. KPFK has been asked to resubmit with a scaled down budget and production \$40,000 request on Oct. 1, 2007. Program Director will meet with Debo Kotun and development director to finalize budget.

NOTEWORTHY APRIL & MAY EVENTS:

- Palast event on April 28 a sold out event. Expenses under \$1000 and income @ \$6515 with percentage of Palast book sales to be paid to KPFK by Book Soup.
- In-house premiums. More than 8 organizations, for whose events KPFK is media sponsor, have agreed to give KPFK permission to tape as part of GM’s goal to produce premiums in-house, including John Pilger talk on June 11. A list is available.
- Tentative date and location for next TOWN HALL is September 22 at CSUN.
- Outreach Committee: Next monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 10, in KPFK Conference Room. 7:30pm.
- Outreach Committee will help to provide transportation and cultural outings for PNB meeting. Reza Pour volunteering to coordinate transport from and to airport starting July 26-July 29.
- October 2006 Fund Drive Unfulfilled pledges- Special “October Surprise” letter sent followed by a mini-phone-athon on May 26 from 11am-3pm to at least 1000 pledgers. Results forthcoming, but several pledgers responded positively by paying that day.

Thanks for the help of LSB members Jack Van Aken and Reza Pour.

ENGINEERING:

Santa Barbara Translator: On Wednesday, May 30 the translator was completely re-engineered and new equipment installed. Adjustments will continue to be made to optimize and maintain the facility.

OPERATIONS:

Carpeting: 100 square yards of Carpet was donated and installed by Bentley Prince Street.

- It was installed in the producers room, conference room and Christine's office.

PA System: We have purchased a PA system to use at events.

Telephones: A call accounting system is going to be installed.

- Passwords will be issued after its installation. Shortly before then an email will go out detailing the respective policies.
- I have completed an inventory of all of our phone services and I am in the process of consolidating our telephone services and have begun to get prices on packages that will reduce our phone costs.
- Projected savings on our phone bill will be 30 to 50% monthly. We are looking at approximately 2 to 3 months before we see these savings.

Web Report available at:

<http://www.kpfk.org/awstats/awstats.pl?month=05&year=2007&output=main&config=www.kpfk.org&framename=index>