Minutes of the KPFK Local Station Board Meeting of August 29, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the KPFK Local Station Board was held on Wednesday, August 29, 2012, 7:09 PM at the Echo Park United Methodist Church, 1226 N. Alvarado St, Los Angeles, CA, 90026-3127, the Chair (Michael Novick) being in the Chair and the Secretary (John P. Garry III) being present. The minutes of the two previous meeting (July 28, 2012, August 11, 2012) were approved.

Twenty members were present, constituting a quorum: Ken Aaron, Chuck Anderson, Ankine Antaram, Rodrigo Argueta, Fred Blair, Lydia Brazon (arrived 7:13), John Cromshow, John De Simio, Aryana Gladney, Leonard Isenberg, Kim Kaufman, Fred Klunder, Jim Lafferty, Brenda Medina, Margie Murray, Michael Novick, John Parker (arrived late), Lawrence Reyes, John Wenger (arrived 7:38), Lamont Yeakey (arrived 7:17).

Four members were excused: Tej Grewall, Ali Lexa, Dutch Merrick, Summer Reese.

Also present: Members of the public.

Authority and Notice: This meeting, originally scheduled for Wednesday, August 15, 2012, was authorized by the LSB by a motion approved at its special meeting of August 11, 2012. The new date was posted on KPFTX.org on August 11, 2012. The location was noticed to the board via email and posted on KPFTX.org on August 14, 2012. Additional notice was posted on other websites beginning on August 22, 2012 (see Appendix A).

Audio Recording: The audio for this meeting is available at KPFTX.org.

[Audio Part 1 kpfk120829a.mp3]

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL (7:09)

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:09 PM with a quorum of 15.

EXCUSED ABSENCES (7:13)

The excused absence requests of Grewall, Lexa, Merrick, and Reese were accepted without objection. Without objection, prior absences by Klunder and Merrick shall be changed to excused absences.

AGENDA APPROVAL (7:13)

The time-certain for adjournment was changed to 9:30 without objection. Responding to a request by Argueta, Lafferty moved ten minutes for a discussion: item IVa. Seconded by Argueta. Passed without objection. The amended agenda was approved without objection.
GROUND RULES FOR COMMUNICATION (7:19)

The Chair reiterated principles of Board decorum and public participation. There shall be a 90 second time limit for speaking.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (7:19)

There were no announcements.

MINUTES APPROVAL (7:19)

The Secretary was directed to correct the minutes to reflect Klunder’s excused absence on August 11, 2012. The minutes of July 28, 2012 and August 11, 2012 were approved without objection.

II. SCHEDULING / LOCATION / NOTICE OF MEETINGS (7:20)

The next LSB meeting is Saturday, September 15, 2012, location TBD. Reyes noticed a Town Hall Task Force meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at Radio Station KPFK

III. PNB REPORTS (7:26)

Brazon and Aaron reported. Aaron announced that Summer Reese was serving as the Pacifica interim Executive Director. Blair reported on the recent PNB Audit Committee meeting. The Chair committed to hold an election for two Audit Committee positions (one Director member, one LSB member) at the next meeting. Murray reported on the Affiliates Task Force. Novick reported on the Programming Committee.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT I (7:43)

Public comment was heard for eight minutes.

IV (a). STATION STAFF PROCEDURES (7:51)

There was a discussion of staff access to station technology.

Kaufman moved that the General Manager submit to the LSB, by noon tomorrow, a log of on-air election carts to check compliance with election rules. Lafferty called the question.

Isenberg moved: The prerequisite for closing the election is that carts have been played. No vote taken.

Motion failed by a roll call vote: Yes—8, No--9, Abstain—3.
Yes—Aaron, Blair, Cromshow, De Simio, Isenberg, Kaufman, Wenger, Yeakey.
No—Anderson, Argueta, Brazon, Gladney, Klunder, Lafferty, Medina, Parker, Reyes.
Abstain—Antaram, Murray, Novick.

[Laferty moved: The LSB determines that if computers are to be shut off each night, every staff member or member of each collective shall be issued a code to operate station computers within one week.]

Passed without objection. The Chair committed to take this motion to the GM the next day.

[Laferty moved: If sufficient carts have not been run, the LSB recommends extension of the election nomination period commensurate with the fulfillment of the required number of plays.]

Motion passed by a show of hands: Yes—18, No—1, Abstain—1.

V. PRESENTATION OF GENERAL MANAGER’S PROPOSED BUDGET (8:25)

The budget was forward electronically to the Board prior to the meeting and distributed in paper to the Board and the public. The General Manager was not in attendance.

Kaufman (Finance Committee Chair) made comments on the FY2013 KPFK Budget. Discussion followed.

VI. Public Comment II (8:51)

Public comment was heard for six minutes.

VII. LSB BUDGET DISCUSSION (8:57)

There was a general discussion of the FY2013 station budget.

Wenger moved: The LSB sanctions the General Manager and the Business Manager for not submitting a complete FY2013 station budget.

[Audio Part 3 120829c.mp3]

Discussion continues.

Reyes moved to extend 30 minutes Motion failed by a majority show of hands. A motion to extend 10 minutes passed by majority show of hands. (9:24)
The Chair allowed two additional comments—one for, one against—on the pending motion.

Reyes moved to table. Motion failed by a roll call vote: Yes—8, No—9.

Yes—Anderson, Brazon, Cromshow, Gladney, Klunder, Lafferty, Medina, Reyes.
No—Aaron, Antaram, Argueta, Blair, De Simio, Kaufman, Murray, Wenger, Yeakey.
Present not voting—Novick.

The main motion failed by a roll call vote: Yes—8, No—9, Abstain—2.

Yes—Aaron, Argueta, Brazon, De Simio, Kaufman, Murray, Wenger, Yeakey.
No—Anderson, Antaram, Brazon, Cromshow, Klunder, Lafferty, Medina, Novick, Reyes.
Abstain—Antaram, Gladney.

Brazon moved to accept the General Manager’s FY2012 station budget with an LSB quarterly review. (9:34)


Yes—Brazon, Lafferty, Medina.
Abstain—Antaram, Cromshow.

Reyes moved to table the budget until the GM is present to answer questions. The Chair ruled the motion out of order.

The public meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM due the expiration of time. After a recess the Board reconvened in executive session until 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by John P. Garry III, Secretary
(these minutes were approved on September 15, 2012)

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Appendix A—Public Notices

Emailed by Terry Goodman on August 22, 2012:

The KPFK Local Station Board is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, August 29, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Echo Park United Methodist Church, 1226 N Alvarado St, Los Angeles, CA 90026-3127, one block north of Sunset Blvd. This meeting is expected to included a short closed session to
Approvers
language for reporting out from a previous closed session.

Refs:
http://www.kpfk.org/lsbmenu/93-calenderandnotices/6303-lsb-meeting-82912.html
http://www.kpfk.org/eventcal.html?task=view_detail&agid=2933&year=2012&month=08&day=29

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Appendix B—Approved Agenda

Proposed Agenda for the KPFK LSB Meeting of 8-29-2012
(all times include board discussion time)

Public Session

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Excused Absence Requests, Agenda Approval, Ground Rules for Communication, Announcements, Minutes Approval (10 min)

II. Scheduling / Location / Notice of Meetings including on-air Town Hall (10 min)

III. PNB Reports (15 min)
   a. Directors
   b. Committees

IV. Public Comment I (Question regarding PNB) (7.5 min)

IV (a). Station Staff Procedures. (10 min)

V. Presentation of General Manager’s proposed budget FY2013 (12.5 min)

VI. Public Comment II (questions regarding budget) (7.5 min)

VII. LSB Budget Discussion (75 min)

VIII. Public Comment III (before any pending motions) (7.5 min)

IX. Town Hall Task Force (5 min)

X. Public Comment IV (7.5 min)

Time Certain for Adjournment: 9:30 PM
Executive Session

I. Roll Call (2 min)

II. Program Director Search report-out discussion (20 min)

III. Report-Out (5 min)

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Appendix C—General Manager Report

PACIFICA RADIO KPFK 90.7 FM
MANAGER’S REPORT TO THE LOCAL STATION BOARD

Wednesday, August 29, 2012

(Bernard Duncan, General Manager)

Manager’s Overview

• The August fund drive concluded on 21 August, and including funds from Southern California collected during KPFA’s August drive resulted in a total of $606,000.

• Pursuant to a recent LSB resolution, a recording of the Pacifica Mission Statement is being scheduled to play once every day.

• KPFK’s operating budget for the 2013 Fiscal Year will be voted on by the LSB at this meeting. Unfortunately, due to a prior commitment the GM is unable to attend the meeting (the date of which has been moved), but the budget was distributed on Monday. The GM understand that the LSB treasurer does not support this budget.

• During the recent fund drive the GM mentioned on air the necessity for a new transmitter to work in tandem with the solid state transmitter we bought at the end of last year. A call from a major donor followed with an offer of $10,000 to kick off a capital campaign. The logistics of such a campaign are being worked on now.

Outreach and Development

• Events – Dr. Mario Martinez: August 8, English-language presentation. Attendance was 800-1,000 in the sanctuary. The event was well-promoted for 2 months. Door sales were $1,585. Most of our attendance was through fund drive pledges and online sales. This was followed by another
presentation in Spanish by Dr. Martinez on Friday evening, August 10 to a room of 85 people. Both events were recorded for use as premiums. Final earnings from the fund drives are still being generated.

- Community Advisory Board (CAB) – A CAB meeting is being planned for the third week in September.

- Career and Internship Program 2012 – A new Fall period of Cooperative Education internships have been organized by the Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator with Los Angeles Valley College and Los Angeles City College. Cooperative Education is a program that establishes a three-way relationship between the student, the college, and the employer. This structured relationship allows the student to create short-and-long range career goals and to recognize his/her progress by establishing three measurable learning objectives for the semester.

- Film Club – Film Club offerings and their respective cross-promotions of the station have been especially fruitful this month with Docuweeks and the 1st Annual Korean-American Film Fest. Among the Film Club films offered were: Codependent Lesbian Space Alien Seeks Same; Compliance; Death by China; Downtown Express; Heist: Who Stole The American Dream?; It Is No Dream: The Life of Theodor Herzl; Life Is Strange; Little White Lies; Nuit; Painted Skin; The Resurrection; Samsara; Speak; Supercapitalist; The Ambassador; The Green Wave; Until They Are Home; We Women Warriors; You’ve Been Trumped.

- Development Proposal to Monetize Public Service Announcements – The following represents a proposal for LSB consideration. It suggests a model by which the station could be paid for making public service announcements and represents a change in direction that requires considerable thought. Management would appreciate LSB advice on this issue.

**KPFK 90.7 FM Proposal for a PSA Campaign for “Empower L.A.”**

**Neighborhood Council Elections 2012**

KPFK Radio 90.7 FM would like to help Empower L.A. reach residents of Los Angeles County with an outreach message designed to educate the public about Neighborhood Council Elections and the importance of participation. With a weekly cumulative listenership of approximately 107,000 listeners, KPFK is a public media outlet with a community radio sensibility, whose mission is to foment political and social justice discourse in our society. As such, KPFK is uniquely positioned to reach a civically engaged audience with the “Empower L.A.” message.

**Fee Schedule**

Value of a 30-sec radio spot: $250
Number of spots per day: 2
Start Date of Campaign: September 1, 2012
End Date: TBD
Duration of campaign: 30 days (may be more)
Number of PSAs: 60 x $250 = $15,000
Corresponding website banner = $125 per week x 4 weeks = $500

General Guidelines for KPFK 90.7 FM Recorded Announcements

1. All scripts must follow Federal Communications Commission (FCC) guidelines (listed below). All announcements are subject to final approval and editing by KPFK 90.7 FM/Pacifica Radio Los Angeles.

2. On-air announcements for events and activities in which money is requested or accepted are exclusively for use by non-profit entities. A copy of your organization’s current 501(c)(3) documentation should be attached. State non-profit designation is acceptable as well.

3. Any reference to corporate underwriting and/or sponsorship may be edited out of the announcement.

Specific Guidelines for the PSA Campaign (based on feedback from FCC Attorney John Crigler)

1. The spots may not run within a radio show. They can only run before or after a scheduled show.

2. There can be no value-added or advocacy language within the promo, and no calls to action.

3. Advocacy for specific candidates is not permitted. Rather, the message should educate the listeners about neighborhood council elections in general and the “Empower L.A.” program specifically with a link to more information at http://empowerla.org/elections/.

Programming

• At the time of writing this report the program director is in Tampa following the Republican National Convention, so a full programming report will be made for the September LSB meeting.
Pacifica is covering both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions on a network level with stations carrying two-hour Democracy Now! editions in the morning, and four hours of live coverage from the conventions in the evening. The evening program is presented by KPFA’s Mitch Jeserich and Davey D, and KPFK’s Margaret Prescod.

**Operations**

- EEO – The EEO report for 2011 – 2012 has been filed, placed with in our public file and uploaded on to the web. A copy of the EEO 2011-2012 report is attached (with this report) to the email sent to the LSB.

- Plumbing – We continue to have periodic problems with our drainage. The kitchen sink backed up and its drain all the way to the access point in the ladies room was filled with lots of debris. Once it was cleared a few days later the bathrooms got clogged because some of the debris backed it up in the drain outside the building before the city sewage.

  It has been recommended that we do a high pressure cleaning in the pipes from the kitchen. A decision is pending based on further investigation of other options and the return on our investment for moving forward with the cleaning.

- KPFK Dispatch – The format of the KPFK weekly Dispatch has been changed to include a few more features such as: program highlights, links to contacts and links to follow programmers.

  - A G+ page was created for KPFK, and a link to the Dispatch gets posted there along with Twitter and Facebook

**Engineering**

- Studios – The KPFK studios are generally in good condition and repair. There are continuing problems with the computer server that is the studio audio source for programs, themes, promos and other copy. A complete rebuild of the system will be done within the next few weeks.

- Malibu Booster site – No word from the FAA about the KPFK application for an “Outgrant” to use FAA space at the Saddle Peak booster site for the KPFK FM receive antenna. We are working on alternate areas on Saddle peak where we can place the antenna so we will be able to increase KPFK signal penetration along Pacific Coast Highway and in the canyon areas.

- Rancho Bernardo translator site – This translator is in good condition and is operating well covering Northern San Diego County. There are occasional moments of interference from the FM station on 90.7Mhz in Tijuana particularly during hot weather.

- Santa Barbara translator site – The translator is in good condition and is operating
properly and is covering the coastal area of Santa Barbara from Isla Vista to Montecito. There are also occasional moments of interference from the FM station on 90.7Mhz in Tijuana during hot weather.

- Mt. Wilson transmitter site – The KPFK Nautel NV-20 solid state backup transmitter is on the air into the main antenna system. Repairs have been attempted and completed on the old Armstrong transmitter only to have other problems arise. Repair of the current KPFK transmitter has become a continuing process with no end in sight. The FCC has approved temporary transmission from Mt. Wilson at lower power while the difficulties are addressed. Current antenna ERP is sufficient to cover the main KPFK coverage area. The need to replace the current problematic Armstrong transmitter with another new Nautel solid state transmitter is becoming more and more imperative if we are to maintain our coverage in Southern California. With reliable solid state transmitters in place electrical power usage would also be cut nearly in half and the cost of electric service for the transmitter site would be reduced significantly.

The emergency electrical generator and the backup transmitter will keep KPFK operating during electrical power outages.

**Business Office**

- Financial status as at **August 28** (cf. July 28) –
  - o Total Cash in Bank is **$565,000** (407,000)
  - o Total payables stand at **$25,000** (43,000)
  - o Central Services fees owed to National Office stand at **$326,000** (211,000).

  We have not yet received the CPB funding due to us, but this funding will be used to offset some of our National Office dues.

  Bernard Duncan
  General Manager
  August 28 2012

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Appendix D—Personnel Committee Report

TO: KPFK Local Station Board
FROM: John Cromshow, Chair
Personnel Committee
RE: Monthly Report
DATE: Wednesday, 8/29/2012
The KPFK LSB Personnel Committee met on Monday (8/27/12) from 4-6 PM at the station.
We have completed a first draft of the General Manager evaluation.
Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the last week in September.

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