Minutes of the Unquorumed KPFK LSB Meeting of November 20, 2013

A KPFK Local Station Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 7:30 PM, at The Peace Center, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230. The Chair (Tejvir Grewall) was in the chair and the Secretary (John P. Garry III) was present. The meeting did not achieve quorum. An unquorumed meeting was held in its stead.

Twelve members were present, resulting in a lack of quorum: Chuck Anderson, Rodrigo Argueta, Lydia Brazon, Aryana Gladney, Tejvir Grewall, Fred Klunder, Jim Lafferty, Brenda Medina, Michael Novick, John Parker (arrived 8:09), Lawrence Reyes, Ron Spriestersbach.

Also present: Bernard Duncan (KPFK General Manager), Terry Goodman (Audio Recordist, Web Liaison) and members of the public.

Authority and Notice: The original date for this meeting was authorized by the LSB’s adoption of a regular meeting schedule at its meeting of February 13, 2013. The meeting date was rescheduled by vote of the Board on October 26, 2013. The new date was posted on the Pacifica Board Meeting Calendar/kpftx.org on October 26, 2013. Additional notice was posted on KPFK.org and other websites beginning on November 16, 2013 (see Appendix A). An updated posting was made and an updated notice was sent to the Board and members of the public on November 17, 2013. An announcement was broadcast on KPFK 90.7 FM beginning on either Wednesday, November 13 or Thursday, November 14, 2013.

Audio Recording: All available KPFK Local Station Board and Delegates minutes and audio may be retrieved through the master index pages on KPFK’s website:

http://www.kpfk.org/index.php/lsbpnbmenu/160-meetingminutes

[Play All—Hour 1]

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL (7:53) [0:21]

The unquorumed meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:53.

Brazon moved to schedule an LSB Meeting (for the election of new officers) and a Delegates Meeting (to vote on proposed Bylaws Amendments) for Saturday, December 21, 2013, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at The Peace Center. Lafferty seconded. Passed without objection. [49:40]

Meeting adjourned without objection at 8:46 PM. [52:25]

The Board reconvened in an unquorumed executive session in the same location from 8:47 PM to 8:56 PM. The Secretary was present and minutes were recorded. An unquorumed Delegates Meeting was held in the same location from 8:56 PM to 9:19 PM.

At 9:19 PM the Chair convened a Committee of the Whole. There was Board discussion and
public comment until 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by John P. Garry III, Secretary
(these minutes were approved on February 19, 2014)

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Appendix A—Public Notice

Emailed by Terry Goodman on November 16, 2013:

The November meeting of the KPFK Local Station Board has been rescheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 7:00 pm at The Peace Center, 3916 S. Sepulveda Blvd, Rms 101-102, Culver City, CA 90230-4640. The public is invited and will be allowed to address the Board and pose questions to the General Manager. There is free public parking behind the building. There will be a short executive session at the end of the meeting for the secure distribution of the LSB’s written evaluation of the KPFK General Manager.

Refs:

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Appendix B—General Manager Report

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

Wednesday, November 20, 2013
(Bernard Duncan, General Manager)

Manager’s Overview

• The KPFK fall fund drive ended on October 29 and raised about $1.1 million. While this is an impressive total, more than half of which was raised in special programming produced by Christine Blosdale and Gary Null, the cost of some premiums was high and will impact the actual income to the station.

• Unfortunately, the timing of this LSB meeting clashes with the KPFK event in Santa Monica where Thom Hartmann will launch his new book.
• A proposed one-day-a-week daytime program featuring Gary Null which was planned to begin during November will not now take place as Gary has declined to present it.

Programming

• Coming off the successful October fund drive we have returned to regular programming.

With the series Access College completing the first part of its two part run (to return in the fall) and the recurrent show Focus on Food back on hiatus, The Car Show has returned to its regular time at 9am on Saturdays. The Car Show is in its 40th year, and its team will be working with the interim Program Director to launch a new website and build its social media profile. We have big plans for this classic KPFK show now that NPR’s Car Talk is no longer producing new shows.

With Axis of Justice still on hiatus, we have moved more shows into the rotation on the Friday at 7pm timeslot – the hour is now filled by Soul Rebel Radio (1st week), Politics and Pedagogy (3rd week), and From the Vault and David Feldman (2nd, 4th, and 5th weeks).

We have had to interrupt our regular programming for national fund drives this week: two days for the Pacifica Radio Archives, but the proposed one day national office fundraiser has been postponed. This Friday is a day of special programming around the 50th anniversary of the assassination of JFK; as special programming from around the network will be featured from 11am until 6pm – along with special segments on the assassination in the 7am, 8am, and 10am hours hosted by Margaret Prescod, Sonali Kolhatkar, and Michael Slate respectively.

Operations

• Facilities – There have been several office changes to make better use of our space since the departure of the Interim Development Director.

Our water heater had one of its pipes burst over a weekend and was repaired by patching it up. We will be looking at replacing the old pipe in the near future.

• Air-conditioning – The Master Control Unit 6 still is not performing the way we need it to. We will need to purchase a new unit that will cost $12,000 to $15,000. We will eventually need to replace this unit.

• Dispatch Newsletter/Email Survey – The survey on the Dispatch revealed some interesting results. As expected about 10% of our open rate (which is an average of 16%) participated in the survey:

  • The overall satisfaction with the Dispatch is 3.5 out 5.
  • More than half of respondents prefer a weekly Dispatch over a bi-weekly
  • A large margin of respondents would prefer to get the newsletter on a Monday.
  • Going through our text responses there is a request for more programming forward promotion and highlights, which would work well on Mondays to promote the week
• Most people prefer to get it in the mornings, which is in alignment with our analytics, our open rates are significantly higher when sent before 12PM

• Social Media –

  *Facebook* – We continue to grow our Facebook following and look to implement more social media engagement in our fund drives. FB Total Likes rose from 13,382 in September to 13,881 in October. KPFK News continues to drive more people to our FB page and garnishes the most views.

October’s most reached post was “*KPFK News: Indigenous, Mexican-American and Latino groups are holding protests today across Southern California against Columbus Day. They say racism and brutality against Native people continues to this day. They point to abject poverty and government abuse in local reservations, as well as anti-Native discrimination against indigenous people from Mexico and Central America.*”

  *Twitter* – Total Followers rose from 2,573 in September to 2,680 in October with an average growth of four daily.

  The top three Most Mentions come from Brad Blog, Kristi Lomax, and Doran Berans. These three have mentioned us over 100 times in October.

  The Most popular link shared on twitter with 330 clicks: “*Terrifying Photos Of Police Swarming Capitol Hill After A Woman Allegedly Rammed Her Car Into A White House Barricade*”

**Engineering**

• Studios – The studios are generally in good condition and operating properly. Replacement of the studio microwave transmit antenna will happen within a few weeks.

• Malibu 90.7 Booster site – FCC approval for the Oat Mountain program audio microwave system is still awaited.

• Rancho Bernardo 93.7 translator site – The system is in good condition and operating very well covering much of northern San Diego County.

• Santa Barbara 98.7 translator site – The 98.7MHz translator is in good condition and is doing well covering the Santa Barbara area.

• Mt. Wilson 90.7 transmitter site – The Nautel transmitters are operating reliably and at full power.

**Business Office**

• Details from the business office as at November 19 are as follows –
  - Total Cash in Bank (not including the restricted Studio A grant of $52,000) is **$158,000** ($237,000 on October 25).
- Total payables stand at $35,800.
- Central Services payments are up to date.
- We have still yet to receive the second installment of our CPB funding.

Bernard Duncan
General Manager
November 19, 2013