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MINUTES

Local Station Board Meeting of May 21, 2017
Iman Center
3376 Motor Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90034
Local Station Board (LSB) Meeting

I. Call to Order / Opening Business 10:39 a.m.

A. Roll Call Taken:

Present are KPFK LSB Members Grace Aaron, Sandy Childs, Roberta Eidman, Jaime Gomez (Chair), Jan Goodman, Stephen Kaiser, Doug Kriegel, Maggie LePique, Ali Lexa, Barbara Marbach, Ismael Parra, Reza Pour, Lance Simmens, Fernando Velazquez, Lawrence Reyes, and Lisa Wong. Also present are LSB Secretary Michael Adler and Marlena Bond.

B. Seat New Board Member:

Marlena Bond was recognized, seated, welcomed to the board and gave a statement.

C. Designate Timekeepers:

Barbara Marback (for individual) and Steven Kaiser (for segment) assigned and agree to be time keepers.

D. LSB Excused absence requests:

Ken Aaron(Treasurer), Jonathan Alexander, Stephen Frantz, Ricardo Hernandez, Myla Reson, Mansoor Sabbagh, and Dorothy Reik have requested excused absences. Excused absence requests approved by unanimous consent.

E. Approve Proposed Agenda:

Two minor changes were made to the agenda:

- a. Remove Community Advisory Board Report
- b. Add collection of donations for the room).

A motion to approve the revised Proposed Agenda was made and seconded and the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

F. Approve April 9, 2017 LSB Minutes:

A motion to approve the Local Station Board Minutes of April 9, 2017 was made and seconded and the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

II. Elect Vice-Chair

Barbara Marbach nominated to Vice Chair and elected by unanimous consent.

III. Public Comments #1

Public comments were presented.

IV. Directors and Treasurer's Reports**A. Grace Aaron**

Pacifica National Board Meeting recap presented. National Finance, Audit, Programming, Governance committees all active and presenting.

B. Jonathan Alexander (omitted due to excused absence)**C. Jan Goodman****D. Mansoor Sabbagh (omitted due to excused absence)****E. Ken Aaron (Written Report)**

Financial report from Ken Aaron presented by Grace Aaron.

F. Q&A

Ali Lexa and Lawrence Reyes will draft a motion to the PNB that all responsible for Big Tent Radio be removed from Pacifica.

V. Committee Reports**A. LSB Outreach Committee Report**

Reza Pour presented report on current activities.

B. LSB GM Search Committee Report

Ali Lexa presented the report and will send written report. Opening will be posted shortly on the station's web site.

C. LSB Governance Committee Report

Jaime Gomez reported that the KPFK Governance Committee unofficially met on May 18, 2017 at their scheduled time and place without a quorum. The following motion was made at that meeting and presented to the Local Station Board for consideration:

Town Hall Motion

Authors: Roberta Eidman/Barbara Marbach

Whereas:

The Pacifica Bylaws Article Seven, Local Station Boards, Section 3: Specific Powers and Duties mandates the LSB

G. To conduct "Town Hall" style meetings at least twice a year, at locations across our broadcast LSB area devoted to hearing listeners views, needs and concerns.

Therefore, we move:

That the KPFK LSB authorize Barbara Marbach and Roberta Eidman to organize a Town Hall to take place before the end of July 2017, with a budget not to exceed \$500.00

and

They convene a 'Town Hall Task Force' of LSB members to assist with organizing.
When the event concludes the Task Force is automatically dissolved.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the motion and the motion was passed by unanimous consent.

VI. Public Comments #2

Public comments were presented.

It was noted that the Strategic Planning Committee has not been convened. Steven Kaiser volunteered to convene the committee. The chair asked Mr. Kaiser to notify the LSB Secretary so that it can be properly posted.

VII. Lapsed Members Survey Report

A. Report

Stene Kaiser gave a presentation regarding the survey. Noted that there were many other people to call and that it could be automated.

B. Q&A

Based on the Q&A, it was recommended that a motion be worked out by the finance committee "To recommend a subscription to the Nielsen ratings." To that end a LSB motion was made and seconded as follows:

"The board seriously consider the financial impact of subscribing to the Nielsen ratings."

Two opinions for and opposed were presented. The motion passed 12 to 5.

VIII. Closing Business:

A. Next Meeting Location

Arguments were made to having meetings at various locations as well as staying at the Peace Center. It was approved by unanimous consent to meet at the Peace Center on July 11th at 10:30.

B. A collection for the use of the room for today's meeting was \$137 was collected. This was donated to the Iman Center and a receipt provided to the board

C. The chairman made a motion to adjourn that was unopposed and passed by unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 PM.

Appendix A - Required Notices

Proper notice of this meeting was posted on the KPFK Calendar and at the Pacifica Calendar as required.

Appendix B – General Manager’s Report to LSB**GENERAL MANAGER REPORT TO LSB – MAY 2017****GENERAL STATION/STAFF UPDATE – (CHRISTINE BLOSDALE)**

As you know we are currently in the middle of our Spring Into Summer fund-drive which began May 9 and will run until we make our goal of \$630,000. Please note that this was originally \$600k but we needed to increase it due to a recently required payment to the national office of \$33K for urgent issues.

As with all fund-drives any and all assistance from the LSB at this time would be greatly appreciated. We still need people answering phones in drive time hours and weekends in the phone room and so if you can come in and answer calls it will be greatly appreciated. This is very important.

As of the today, May 21, our fund-drive total is **\$342,000**.

I am beyond ecstatic to report that our AMY GOODMAN event on May 17th was a huge success. The feedback I have received has been overwhelmingly positive and we were able to raise approx. \$25,000 with ticket sales, live auctions and matching challenges. Due to the success of both Amy and Richard Wolff’s events being a positive revenue generating venture we will be working on producing more of these types of events in the future. I’d also like to take a moment to thank our incredible staff, volunteers, local LSB members (and especially Mansoor) for all of their hard work and dedication on the Amy Goodman event. The celebration of this event’s success should be shared by all.

While in my last report to the LSB I was able to say that all obligations stipulated in the agreement between SAG-AFTRA and KPFK mandated by previous Arbitration had been completely fulfilled, unfortunately we are now facing a grievance and another arbitration proceeding due to the lack of pension payments for 2 years.

I would like to go on record and say that after my repeated requests to have a 7-8 month plan of payment submitted to SAG/AFTRA, the National Office has decided to put this issue on hold, citing concerns of us not having the necessary funds. This was a commitment that was a priority to me and one I had wanted to accomplish during my time here as interim GM at KPFK. But due to the decisions by the N.O. the Union has now once again filed a grievance and is taking us to Arbitration. We are now in the process of choosing an arbitrator (this will come from the N.O.). In addition to the back owed pension funds we will now need to pay for legal counsel along with any penalties or fees that arise from such a decision. Again, this was against my wishes.

Moving Forward: I am currently conducting meetings with each department to go over what positive changes can be made that can benefit both the physical station and the programming.

As this is my third month as IGM I am very happy to report that the support I have received both by

the staff and the public has been overwhelmingly positive and I am grateful for this opportunity to serve KPFK in the highest capacity that I possibly can.

Thank you.

KPFK BUDGET AND FINANCE STATUS – (BARRY BROOKS)

KPFK's Operating Administration account current balance is \$80,884.82 5/17/2017. We expect an additional deposit of approximately \$30,000 from PayPal from the last May 2017 fund drive and online donations. The May 9, 2017 fund drive has raised approximately \$75,000 and we expect to do even better in the next couple of weeks. KPFK's payables are current and being paid in a timely manner. The Spring and Summer community events of this year and the fund drives associated with increase donations, should prove to be a good month for Listener support revenue and online support revenue. KPFK has started to accrue for employee Pension Benefits. This will enable KPFK's expenditure to be more in line with the cost associated with maintaining the union (AFTRA) requirements for employee Pension Benefits. The Pacifica Foundation and Its subsidiaries are in the process of signing a contract with a leading accounting firm to manage the FY2015 audit. The Richard Wolfe speaking engagement on April 20, 2017 was very successful in raising money for the station. Brown paper ticket revenue had a pretty good turnout. The Amy Goodman community event on May 17, 2017 at Immanuel Presbyterian church was very successful and went surprisingly well.

As of this date, KPFK continues to be well positioned in meeting its financial obligations. Including its Health Benefits for its employees, payroll funding, NO Central Services and Accounts payable obligations.

PROGRAMMING – (ALAN MINSKY)

Little new to report from the programming department, as we hunker down and concentrate on keeping the station on air by raising funds this month.

Per the fund drive, there is some good news to report as we are averaging roughly 15% to 20%, maybe even 25%, better than this point last drive last drive. Whereas we were struggling along with daily averages in the \$23,000 to \$25,000 range in February in the first couple of weeks (which itself was an improvement from couple of pre-Trump drives that were more like \$20,000 to \$21,000); we're now challenging the \$30,000 a day mark – though we're still falling short of that at \$29,000 through the first nine days.

The growth is due to many factors, but certainly the return of Something's Happening to 24 hours per week is a key component; and the return of Rising Up to five days a week has also raised the average for the 8am hour.

Other than that, strong numbers from stalwarts Sojourner Truth and Background Briefing and a series of super successful shows from top fund-raiser Christine Blodale have helped lift the daily average.

We were able to debut a new Ecology show, produced by the folks at Southern California 350.org on the day of the People's Climate March – and new environmental programming is also being developed by legendary anti-nuclear activist Harvey Wasserman.

We are also looking forward to bringing on some other new programs to the airwaves, as well as the return of a few (sorely missed) old programmers in the coming months – but that story will be in an upcoming programmers report.

OPERATIONS –(CHIEF ENGINEER STUART LANDAU)

During the Month of May (so far) there have been two unscheduled power reductions of our main transmitters, mostly likely due to power "hits" on our mains utility power. Both required visits to the mountain-top transmitter site, to restore the equipment and to inspect hardware for damage. This should have had little impact on our listening audience, except for those in our fringe areas.

Last Sunday afternoon (May 14th), there was a brief power outage at the KPFK studio, which had a very minor impact on our programming. Our emergency generator powered the station for the duration of the utility problem.

In April, there was a major problem with one of our main transmitters which required extensive repairs. The cost of parts was covered by an extended warranty, which had been purchased at the end of last year. It took about a week to receive needed parts and to carry out the repairs. All has been back to normal since then.

We continue to provide a very wide area of Southern California with a good sounding, strong signal. There have no extraordinary expenses incurred by the engineering department during this period.

ENGINEERING - (JONATHAN ALEXANDER)

One of the big challenges of operations this month was issues with the air conditioning one unit is 40 years old and the lifespan is 20 years. A different unit froze up and we are looking into ways to redistribute cool air to Master Control to help avoid this happening again. This happens periodically heating up the master control room and costing us money that may be avoidable in the future.

In addition to that our internet service provider went through some structural changes which required a change in how hosting was done for voice over IP service. We are on the verge of providing real-time feedback for on-air host while pitching during the fun drive.

Engineering department : in addition to what Stuart had to report about Mount Wilson. We put a new computer in news one as well as replaced a microphone and headphones similar repairs are underway in the production control room upstairs. We expect to add new computers in The Newsroom and in the volunteer area during the month of June.

MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTIONS – (TERRY GUY)

We could really use help in the phone room especially during busy drive times but also on the weekends when many popular shows are replayed and the call volume is heavy. The membership department is doing their best to process as many premiums as possible and we are happy to report payments for the February drive are going out.

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA – (ALI LEXA)

We are continuing to explore ways to develop and improve our off-air fund raising. Over the last month we've brought in well over \$29,340 via the website

KPFK / Pacifica's new Text to Pledge system and other online and social media methods are achieving very positive results.

A completely new website, server and online pledge system is currently being developed. We have retained the services of the progressive design firm *TYS Creative*, who are donating their services and assistance to the station for this project.

The Pacifica/KPFK app. has been reactivated. We hope to have it available again, for free, in the iTunes and Google Play stores soon.

We are continuing to expand our social media presence and are developing content streams for networks such as Instagram, Snapchat and others.

The KPFK website, live stream and archives have been restored to their former states of functionality. This is an ongoing process and there still many challenges coming up. Many due to how poorly the services and site had been maintained over the previous 18 months.

Other exciting projects are in the works in coordination with the Pacifica National office such as 24 hour streaming channels, to add to the online presence along with the streams of our existing stations

OUTREACH, FUNDRAISING, DEVELOPMENT – MAGGIE LEPIQUE

Billy Childs <http://jazzbakery.org/events/billy-childs-quartet>

Concert for America Stand Up, Sing Out!

http://www.roycehall.org/calendar/event_detail.asp?id=967

**Special Private KPFK Screening of: "THE AMERICAN MEDIA & THE SECOND ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F KENNEDY" Directed by John Barbour Thursday, May 25th - 7:00 PM
At Laemmle's Music Hall Theatre 9036 Wilshire Blvd, Beverly Hills 90211**

Eat Drink Vegan <https://aeg.festivalticketing.com/boxoffice/?cref=08FB25F4-86AB-429C-89F3-C1B51E61EBOC>

La La Land <http://www.hollywoodbowl.com/tickets/lease-event-la-la-land/2017-05-26> (found banner on-line) Aratani <http://www.festivalofsacredmusic.org>

Rodriguez @ Luckman <http://www.luckmanarts.org/events/rodriguez-arum-rae.html>

Chucho Valdes @ The Luckman <http://www.luckmanarts.org/events/chucho-valdes.html>

Lummis Day www.LummisDay.org<<http://www.LummisDay.org>>

Ciclavia http://www.ciclavia.org/ciclavia_glendale17 (found banner on-line) LA Film Festival <https://tickets.lafilmfestival.com/Online/>

War & Los Lonely Boys at the Greek + Paul Rodriguez
<https://www.lagreektheatre.com/events/detail/war-los-lonely-boys>

Playboy Jazz Festival <http://bit.ly/2rsAy8m>

WORLD FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC ARATANI THEATRE FEB-JUNE 2017

Contact: Anu K. Ganpati

Director of Marketing/Publicity

**Jazz Bakery Moveable Feasts Series:
Partnership that runs March-June 2017**

PLAYING FOR CHANGE

Wednesday, Jun 21, 2017 8:00 PM PDT (8:00 PM Doors)

Whisky A Go Go, West Hollywood, CA

An Evening with Arundhati Roy The Ministry of Utmost Happiness

In conversation with author Héctor Tobar

Thursday, Jun 29, 2017 | 7:30pm

Aratani Theatre

UPCOMING PARTNERSHIPS

Grand Performances -Announcements will be made late April about the Summer Season

Levitt Pavillion Concert Series

LA Phil/Hollywood Bowl

Skirball Cultural Center

7TH & Fig Downtown Summer Concerts

And more..