

MINUTES

Local Station Board Meeting of June 11, 2017
Aris & Carolyn Anagnos Peace Center
3916 Sepulveda Blvd, Culver City, CA 90230
Local Station Board (LSB) Meeting

I. Call to Order / Opening Business 10:41 a.m.

A. Roll Call Taken:

Present are KPFK LSB Members Grace Aaron, Jonathan Alexander, Marlena Bond, Sandy Childs, Roberta Eidman, Jaime Gomez (Chair), Jan Goodman, Ricardo Hernandez, Stephen Kaiser, Doug Kriegel, Ismael Parra, Reza Pour, Lance Simmens, Fernando Velaszquez, Myla Reson, Lawrence Reyes, and Lisa Wong. Also present is LSB Secretary Michael Adler.

B. LSB Excused absence requests:

Ken Aaron(Treasurer), Stephen Frantz, Maggie LePique, Ali Lexa, Barbara Marbach (Vice Chair), Mansoor Sabbagh, and Dorothy Reik have requested excused absences. Excused absence requests approved by unanimous consent.

C. Designate Timekeepers:

Steven Kaiser (for both individual and for segment) assigned and agrees to be time keeper.

D. Approve May 21, 2017 LSB Minutes:

A motion to approve the Local Station Board Minutes of May 21, 2017 was made and seconded and the minutes were approved by a vote of Yea-10, Nay 3, abstain 1.

E. Approve Proposed Agenda:

The following changes were made to the agenda by unanimous consent:

- a. Remove Community Advisory Board Report
- b. The first public comments section was increased by 15 minutes. It will be interrupted by Alan Minsky upon his arrival for his report.
- c. The discussion of the location for the next meeting was moved to before the second Public Comments time period. It was noted that this will include a date and place for the Closed Delegates Meeting.
- d. It was noted that the GM Manager's Report was not included in the hard copy handouts provided to the public and that the GM was not presenting.

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

F. Set time certain to adjourn LSB

A motion was made and seconded to time certain to adjourn the KPFK LSB at 2 PM was made and seconded and approved by unanimous consent.

G. Committee Rosters/Conveners/Report Out

- Strategic Planning
- Outreach
- Finance
- Rosters (Rosters are posted at KPFTX.org)

II. **Share Out from closed session:**

On April 9, 2017, we had a closed session of the KPFK Delegates Assembly to discuss confidential legal matters.

III. **Public Comments #1 11:08 AM – 11:20; 12:08 – 12:28**

Public comments were presented.

IV. **Directors and Treasurer's Reports**

A. Program Director Report 11:20 – 12:08

B. Q&A for Program Director

C. Directors Reports

Jan Goodman and Grace Aaron gave a report back from the Pacifica National Board.

D. Location of Next Meeting

It was moved and seconded that we have our next meeting at the fire station in Hollywood. Two speakers were heard for and two against having our next meeting at the fire station in Hollywood. It was voted to not go to the fire station 6 yea, 7 nay, and 1 abstain. The next meeting will not be at the fire station in Hollywood and the LSB meetings will remain at the Peace Center for July.

E. Q&A for Directors and Treasurer

V. **Public Comments #2 1:24 – 1:43**

Public comments were presented.

VI. **Closing Business:**

A. Motion to schedule a closed delegates' assembly in July at 10 AM just before the LSB was made and seconded and the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

B. Announcements were made by the LSB members.

C. A request was made to discuss the PNB motion to eliminate the extra 5 hours in Spanish.

D. There was a motion made 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 – JUNE 2017****GENERAL STATION/STAFF UPDATE – (CHRISTINE BLOSDALE)**

First off, my apologies for not being at the scheduled June LSB Meeting, as I am out of state away on a vacation that was planned and paid for prior to my becoming interim General Manager.

And now on to station business...

I am happy to report that the Spring Into Summer fundrive was a HUGE success! While our goal was \$630,000, we not only reached that milestone, but then surpassed it by hitting **\$707,000!**

That said, for our next Mini Drive (taking place in July) I would like to once again ask for assistance from the LSB in answering phones in drive time hours and weekends. I would also like to ask if there are any fundraising efforts being made by the current LSB to help the station. Any financial contributions from LSB sanctioned activities would be greatly appreciated and are sorely needed. If there are some in the works or planning phase please let me know ASAP.

I am very excited about **PACIFICA RADIO PRESENTS 1984** a full 13 hour day broadcast featuring the reading of the entire novel by George Orwell which will also double as a day of fundraising for the National Office (our goal is \$100,000). The date is set for **Tuesday June 27** and Mark Torres of PRA will be the Executive Producer. I will be on hand to pepper pitch and promote the PRA USB drive for donations. KPFK will host the pledge room and help facilitate this important historical broadcast as well.

During June which is also Pride Month we are also pleased to be presenting **LGBT DAY: A BROADCAST OF PRIDE AND RESISTANCE** this Saturday June 10th from 10am-6pm. It is being produced by Steve Pride and a collective from IMRU and THIS WAY OUT.

After the success of our AMY GOODMAN and RICHARD WOLFF events in prior months we are also planning on having **CORNEL WEST** in July and are currently in the pre-production/planning phases of that event. Ticket sales will be promoted in the July Mini Drive along with a DVD of the event, and a USB Drive of prior events will be offered.

We have agreed to a date in September for the SAG-AFTRA and KPFK Arbitration Hearings regarding the lack of pension payments for the past two years. As of today we are awaiting confirmation from SAG/AFTRA on agreement for the specific dates.

All department heads are in regular contact with me and we are in the process of upgrading and repairing the facility to improve the quality of sound and to run day to day operations. All payments for payroll, healthcare and central services, along with regular bills, are being made in a timely manner.

KPFK BUDGET AND FINANCE STATUS – (BARRY BROOKS)

KPFK's current balance is \$295,487.55 as of 06/07/2017. We expect an additional deposit of approximately \$325,000 from the May 2017 fund drive and online donations. The May 2017 fund drive raised approximately \$707,000 and we exceeded initial expectations of \$635,000. Way to go and congratulations to KPFK's staff and volunteers! We could not have done it without you! KPFK's payables are current and being paid in a timely manner. The Summer fundraising of this year and the fund drives associated with record donations, should prove to be a good month for Listener support revenue, cell phone app donations 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 PNB has appointed Regalia & Associates to be the auditors for FY2015 audit. The Pacifica Foundation and Its subsidiaries are in the process of completing the audit for FY2015 by Regalia and Associates. The FY2015 audit is scheduled to finish sometime in July 2017.

KPFK continues to upgrade its servers and Computers through the IT department and by the help desk ticket system. One of the upgrades include getting a new version of the Microsoft Great Plains general ledger module.

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)

As we come out of the successful Spring Fund Drive we want to touch upon four subjects in this report: the fund drive itself; the programming changes we made immediately following the fund drive; the handful of shows we are planning to introduce to the airwaves in the next few weeks; and as word about our efforts to improve KPFK's overall sound.

Measured Against the fund drives of the past few years the Spring.2017 Fund Drive was a significant improvement. We were averaging \$30,000 per day over the first 18 days of the drive; before the daily average was depressed by the Memorial Dsay weekend - that's over 25% more than the October 2016 Fund Drive. The reasons for this improvement stem largely from two things: the

return of Christine Blodale as a full time participant in the drive {she raised over \$255,000}; and the fact that with Christine as GM, we now have both a GM and PD who know all the best ways to manage a KPFK fund drive in order to maximize the return. Of course, having Roy Tuckman back on six hours in his overnight shows; and Sonali's return to five days a week at 8am also helped raise our numbers - while Margaret Prescod and Ian Masters continued posting solid numbers.

While this was indeed a successful fund drive, and it was great to feel upbeat energy in the building; we cannot lose sight of the fact that these fund drive remain far too long and are far too disruptive of our regular programming. We need to develop other significant sources of revenue. We remained locked into reliance upon the Programming Department to raise 90 - 95% of our money.

We made a small number of programming changes in the week immediately following the fund drive. We've returned the Global Village to 5 days a week. We welcome a new member to the KPFK family, DJ Kevin Lincoln, who will be spinning at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays for the next few weeks in a trial capacity; and we welcome back Yatrika Shah-Rais to the Wednesday at 11 a.m. time slot. Teddy Robinson who was hosting the Wednesday Global Village will, of course, remain with his show Stairway to Heaven early Monday mornings.

The four shows that had been airing from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday all have new places for the summer: The David Feldman Show will be on at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday; Indymedia on air moves to Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and the two literature shows Bibliography and Poets Cafe will air Wednesdays at 2 p.m. while Jim Lafferty is on sabbatical in Europe. We are also introducing the Laura Flanders show to Thursday at 6:30 p.m. If you are familiar with our program grid you can deduce that we are going to limit the Pacifica NewsHour to 30 minutes: the first 15 minutes coming from KPFA, the next 15 minutes from our local News Department. This is an experiment that we're going to try out at least for the summer months. Our goal is to counter this shorter news hour, by raising our local news profile with news headlines at the top of the hour across the afternoons Monday through Friday.

There are a few other shows that you'll be hearing on our airwaves this summer as well: these include a public affairs show hosted by Nana Gyamfi, a hip hop journalism show called Reality is Real, as well as a couple of environmental shows that are producing pilot series: California Solartopia, hosted by Harvey Wasserman; and another hosted by the folks from Southern California 350.org. We are also in dialogue with other veteran programmers that we hope to see return to our Airwaves: Gustavo Arellano, Antonio Gonzalez, Cary Harrison and Terrence McNally. Also, we've received an avalanche of requests to return the Thom Hartmann show to daylight hour (it's currently on Something's Happening with Roy Tuckman) and we're hoping to find a way to accommodate that as well. We will be deciding how we will incorporate these shows into our schedule in the coming days and weeks, but we have no details to report on that front yet.

Lastly, we want to let the local station board know that the program director and Mark Maxwell, now oversees the Production Department, are working in coordination with Traffic Coordinator Matt Perez and all of our Board Operators to try to improve the station's overall sound. In

particular, we will be focusing upon the transition between shows; so look for improvements in that regard too.

OPERATIONS –(CHIEF ENGINEER STUART LANDAU)

The engineering department has little new to report for the last month, which is good news. The main 110 thousand watt transmitter as well as the auxiliary transmitters have been functioning properly and are visited on a regular schedule, for routine maintenance. Some studio problems have been resolved and others are being addressed, as time and money permits.

ENGINEERING - (JONATHAN ALEXANDER)

Most equipment and studios are operating within normal parameters at KPFK.

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA – (ALI LEXA)

We are continuing to explore ways to develop and improve our off-air fund raising. Over the May Fund Drive we've brought in well over \$30, 000 via the website and continue to collect pledges during the writing of this report.

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

New programming and reliability features have been developed and put in place. These new systems will especially improve efficiency in Pledge Taking in the phone room, online and improved reliability with the online archives, Sound Exchange song reporting and the posting of music playlists.

A new website, server and online pledge system is still being developed.

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, 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

Ciclvia, BuddhaFest LA, 12th Annual Lummis Day, Playboy Jazz Festival, LA Film Festival, Playing For Change Peace Through Music World Tour, Queen (Adam Lambert) at the Hollywood Bowl, NAS and Larn Hill at the Hollywood Bowl, Levitt Pavillion Los Angeles (McArthur Park)The Ford Amphitheatre, Skirball Cultural Center, Arudhati Roy, and much more.