

WBAI Local Station Board June 2021 Meeting

Call to Order

Regular meeting of the WBAI Local Station Board, convened remotely due to COVID. Held via Zoom. [Link to Zoom video and audio recordings.](#)

Meeting is presided over by Carolyn McIntyre with Charlotte Albrecht as Secretary. Timekeeper is Marilyn Vogt-Downey.

[Link to the attendance and roll call vote record.](#)

Approval of Agenda

Agenda is adopted with no objections.

1. Convene meeting.
2. Adopt Agenda. (20 minutes)
3. Roll Call. (5 minutes)
4. Excuse absences. (5 minutes).
5. Announcement of the Chair (1 minute)
6. Approve outstanding minutes: [March 10, 2021](#), [April 14, 2021](#), [May 12, 2021](#) (5 minutes)
7. Chair's Update About Pacifica's Executive Director's Response to Management Evaluation Report and Recommendations. (1 Minute)
8. Report from Pacifica National Board Directors including Bylaws Referendum review of actions and PNB Finances (20 minutes) — Alex Steinberg, Ralph Poynter, Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton
9. [Treasurer's Report](#) — (10 Minutes report 8 minutes discussion) — R. Paul Martin
10. Announcement re PNB Elections Committee members (2 minutes)-- Charlotte Albrecht
11. LSB Elections and timeline (20 minutes)--Grace Aaron
 - a. See elections.pacifica.org
12. [Interim Program Director report](#) (5 minutes to read 8 minutes discussion)
13. Fundraising Task Force (1-2 minutes)--DeeDee Halleck and Maxine Harrison-Gallmon

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14. Report from Community Advisory Board — (2 Minutes)— Neale Voss
15. Report of LSB Committee of Inclusion. (2 minutes) — William Heerwagen
16. Raising money for COVID affected people. (2 minutes) — Errol Maitland
17. Discussion: WBAI and Pacifica as "Free Speech Radio" vs Censorship (10 minutes)
18. Motion Respecting Hiring a Full Time Pacifica Foundation Executive Director and Funding That Person's Compensation. (4 minutes) — Mitch Cohen
19. Public Comment. (30 minutes, 2 minutes maximum per speaker before next in queue to speak. Must always begin no later than 9:15 PM ET.)
20. New Business
21. Adjourn no later than 9:45 PM. (ET)

Attendance

Voting Members in attendance:

Charlotte Albrecht
John Brinkley
Mitchel Cohen
Jack DePalma
Jack Devine
DeeDee Halleck
Maxine Harrison-Gallmon
William Heerwagen
R Paul Martin
Carolyn McIntyre
Ralph Poynter
Shawn Rhodes
Sharonne Salaam
James Sagurton
Max Schmid
Alex Steinberg
Marilyn Vogt-Downey
Michael White

DRAFT Minutes — *last updated 07.02.21*

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Not in attendance:

Shya Bey
King Downing
Errol Maitland
Basir Mchawi
Hazel Pinder
Amy Wilson

All absences are excused with no objections.

Approve outstanding minutes. Minutes for March 10, 2021, April 14, 2021, May 12, 2021 are approved with no objections.

Chair's Update About Pacifica's Executive Director's Response to Management Evaluation Report and Recommendations. No response yet.

Report from Pacifica National Board Directors including Bylaws Referendum review of actions and PNB Finances. Alex reports: Held debate on bylaws referendum last week. New Day is making allegations of unfairness and bias in the elections process. They even asked the National Elections Supervisor (NES) to suspend WBAI's General Manager for three months, which was denied. Ballots went out June 7th, voting ends July 7th. Regards this as a group of people who are attempting a hostile takeover with a corporatist outlook on how the network should be run. Their tendency would censor minority points of view and leave less room for independent outlooks, community groups, etc at the network. Stakes are high!

Ongoing attempts to comply with CPB regulations as we attempt to re-enter the program. All Pacifica and station bodies need to be mindful of notice requirements and posting approved minutes.

Shawn notes that if you didn't get a ballot, request one from the NES here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTZXTbbJ0xsfkulzqwnHJvHuroB8EARfQ-t4bYHm_FjyqOA/viewform.

New Day erroneously claimed Jane Fonda endorsed their position. Mitch wrote a letter, Jane does not endorse! But some other folks can't get their names off of New Day materials. Other board members shared anecdotes of other things like this happening.

John B: Shouldn't New Day be penalized? Can this be done at the national level? They can't keep bending and breaking regulations. Alex: can't elaborate but this is being discussed on the PNB.

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Treasurer's Report. Written report [here](#), oral report given by R. Paul Martin. We are current with audits now that FY20 is submitted. This clears the way for CPB funding. In July we can start soliciting money from CPB.

There are some interesting ideas from the Strategic Planning Committee. Such as: a private placement bond specifically for members of Pacifica, has lower interest rates, lower management costs, and not subject to SEC. Also: importance of Pacifica to Emergency Preparedness and Risk Management. Pacifica may qualify as critical infrastructure via FEMA, which would make large radio grants available. A director from KPFK is asking for copies of emergency response plans from each station, but many may not have them yet. Also: Pacifica making NFTs (Non-Fungible Tokens) out of original content from the archives. R Paul thinks this is an interesting idea.

Alex: emergency preparedness plans are actually mandatory for radio stations, required by FCC.

There is discussion about the negative environmental, social, and cultural effects of the NFT popularity. A privatization of the commons. Many LSB members feel they do not align with WBAI and Pacifica's values (Charlotte, Jack, Dee Dee speak on this.)

Announcement re PNB Elections Committee. Charlotte Albrecht is resigning from the Committee.

LSB Elections and timeline. Grace Aaron joins us to reiterate details of LSB elections.

All info at elections.pacifica.org. 9 listener seats open, 3 staff. Nomination phase is June 1st – July 14th. Sign up to nominate candidates [here](#). Each needs 15 nominators. Grace and others are looking into who among the current LSB members need to run again, and who has termed out. Register as a candidate [here](#).

In order to run as a listener candidate for the local station board, you have to be a member of the station at which you are seeking to become a board member by contributing \$25 to the station or performing 3 hours of approved volunteer work between July 1, 2020 and June 30th, 2021. In order to run as a staff member you must be paid or unpaid staff at your station. Unpaid staff are staff members who have worked 30 hours or more on programming related work (not phone room, fundraising or committee work) between April 1, 2021 and June 30th, 2021 (the record date).

Interim Program Director report. Read aloud, written version [here](#).

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Fundraising Task Force. DeeDee Halleck and Maxine Harrison-Gallmon. Next meeting is June 15th, see kpftx.org. Making a bumper sticker with new logo!

Report from Community Advisory Board. Given by Neale Voss. Formally requesting copies of the last two Nielsen reports, as well as a copy of the last listener survey and replies received.