

02/09/05 WPFW LSB Meeting – Minutes

WPFW Local Station Board Meeting

February 9, 2005, 7:00 p.m.

Josephine Parks Butler Building, 2nd floor  
2437 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009

Call to Order: 7:15 p.m.

1. Board members in attendance:

Acie Byrd  
Ayo Handy Kendi  
Billy Ray Edwards  
Cade Campbell  
Carol Wolfe  
Gloria Turner  
Hakam Takash  
Jane Gatewood  
Jim Brown  
Joe Chiara  
Joni Eisenberg  
Katea Stitt  
Kalonji Olusegun  
Luzette King  
Mark Berman  
Mark Roberts  
Norberto Martinez  
Rob Robinson  
Sarah Bittle  
Steve Hoffman  
Thomas Ruffin  
Zarinah Shakir

Ron Pinchback, WPFW General Manager and non-voting LSB member, was also in attendance.

Ambrose Lane and Dan Logan were absent and excused. Katea Stitt left at 9:00 p.m. and Mark Berman left at 9:15 p.m.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda. Approved after some discussion.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes.

a. December 8, 2004 Meeting: Additional corrections submitted to Rob Robinson. Approved with corrections (21 ayes, 3 abstentions).

b. January 5, 2005 Meeting: Corrections submitted. Approved with corrections (15 ayes, 2

abstentions).

c. January 26, 2005 Meeting: Corrections submitted. Approved with corrections (15 ayes).

d. February 2, 2005 Executive Session: Corrected to attach statement by Billy Ray Edwards. Approved with correction (17 ayes).

#### 4. Chair's Comments.

Jim Brown proposes that Mr. Nathaniel Adams be named the LSB's official parliamentarian. He is a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians. He has served as official parliamentarian for several groups including the AARP. Ambrose Lane previously made this suggestion. It is further proposed that the parliamentarian's interpretation is final and that he be empowered to rule.

Norberto Martinez states that parliamentarian should not have voting rights. Carol Wolfe MOVED to accept the proposal. SECONDED by Sarah Bittle. Luzette states that he needs to be visible. Mark R: It will be useful to have the services of a parliamentarian, but the LSB should have the right to over rule the chair and the parliamentarian. We should lean on the parliamentarian to but adhere to the rules. The QUESTION IS CALLED by Hakam. Thomas MOVES to AMEND THE MOTION to implement the parliamentarian's role as defined in Robert's Rules rather than give the parliamentarian final say. Carol MOVES to accept the parliamentarian and accept his ruling on parliamentary procedure as final. SECONDED by Sarah. MOTION IS DEFEATED. Luzette MOVES to accept the services of the parliamentarian and accept as final his rulings on parliamentarian procedure as reflected in the PNB bylaws and Robert's Rules. SECONDED by Sarah.

Thomas MOVES TO AMEND the motion to state that the LSB accepts the services of Mr. Adams as parliamentarian. SECONDED by Hakam. MOTION PASSES (19 yeas, 1 abstention).

It is suggested that the LSB offer a gift and condolences to Tiffany on the passing of her mother. Several types of gifts are suggested, including cash. Ron suggests that a monetary gift will be appreciated in light of unexpected expenses associated with her mother's passing. Flowers were sent on behalf of WPFW. It is decided (15 yeas) that contributions from LSB members will be given to the Secretary (Carol) who will send them to Tiffany with a card. Carol will be away for a week and Jane agrees to do this.

#### 5. Establish a Search Committee for selection of Program Director (PD).

Thomas states that we have a search committee for PD. The committees were not dissolved. They are still in effect. Thomas proposes to retain current committees rather than start over and simply add new members to the current committees. Unless we dissolve the current Management Assessment and Search Committee, we don't need to establish a Search Committee for the PD.

Luzette states that we needed proposed committees in advance of the meeting. The Chair notes that the document proposing committees was distributed at the retreat. Steve states that this is the time to establish the committees rather than creating ad hoc committees throughout the year. Ron states that before forming committees, we need to decide whether or not they are dissolved as a result of the election. Are the committees grand fathered?

Rob MOVES that we dissolve the committees and reestablish new ones at the next meeting.

SECONDED.

Mark R. states that the committees are not dissolved. They are re-populated. The committees were organized to fulfill the LSB duties defined in the bylaws.

Mark B. supports Rob's motion, but due to urgency MOVES that the Chair appoint a committee to search for a PD. SECONDED by Hakam.

Jane appreciates Rob's comments, but existing committees need to be discussed before new ones are established. I have a different proposal that would have our committees running within two weeks. Jane distributes proposal for review.

Kalonji states that the LSB has gone through 2 elections with staggered terms to maintain continuity. He suggests we revisit the committees, refine them, and let them continue their work.

Thomas states that the committees did work, though not always as wanted. Committees were voluntary and it took 3 ½ months to get started. Jim's proposal makes some changes. There was an effort to change. There needs to be acknowledgement of suggestions made on the internet. Jim states that the proposal handed out at the retreat was very similar to what was just distributed. It's not etched in stone. We do need to discuss the committees, but we need, now in our second month, to get started.

Joni supports Kalonji and Thomas. We need to move forward with the work of the committees. The Programming Committee has an urgent need to establish an evaluation mechanism by March 21. Sarah supports Kalonji's proposal.

Luzette is swayed by Kalonji and Thomas, but objects to motions that have fundamental impact being moved on too quickly. There was not enough time to prepare. She does not support having the Chair appoint committees.

Ron supports maintaining committees, but the membership needs to allow for change and growth. The committees need new blood. Mark R. prefers to maintain current committee structure and allow members to sign up for the committees they choose. He cautions that before people signed up for too many committees and some became too big. But the committees need to meet and elect their chairs.

Rob would like to expedite committee formation, but reminds us that several committees were questioned continually by the LSB in a manner that made it impossible for them to do their work. We need to be clear about committee structure and be sure people participate.

Ayo states that committees should meet soon. The committee descriptions are vague, however, and the loose structure may doom them to failure. Gloria adds that people can't spread themselves too thinly. Hakam suggests that we select committees by interest, not according to who else may be on them.

Acie MOVES that we make a ruling that no LSB member can serve on more than 2 committees. He favors keeping the current committee structure.

Substitute MOTION is made to adopt the committee names that were in place and conduct a sign up.

Thomas MOVES to table consideration to dissolve the committees until new members can become oriented. SECONDED by Jane. MOTION CARRIES (6 yeas, 5 nays).

Thomas MOVES that committees that existed last year be continued. New members join the committees of their choice. Others remain on their current committees or choose to join others.

Kalonji MOVES that the committees be reinstated and opened for membership. The committees decide on their functions and report back to the LSB. SECONDED by Sarah.

Rob reminds us that we need to elect 8 representatives to the national committees. The ad hoc Governance Committee is to come back with a recommendation in two weeks.

Jim refers back to the retreat and the goals that the LSB established. Those goals will help define the committees' work. They are the goals that the LSB came up with and need to be incorporated into the committees' work.

Carol CALLS THE VOTE. DEBATE CLOSES (13 yeas, 6 nays).  
MOTION CARRIES (9 yeas, 8 nays).

6. Establish 2005 LSB committees, committee structure and practices.

MOTION is made to retain the same committees as last year. LSB members sign up for committees they would like to join. The Secretary and Chair report back to the LSB for review. The LSB revises committee composition if necessary. MOTION IS SECONDED.

AMENDED by Mark R. To expedite, the first person on the list becomes the convener so that committees can meet prior to the next LSB meeting.

Ayo CALLS THE QUESTIONS. MOTION CARRIES (17 yeas).

Sign-up sheets are distributed and collected. Secretary to distribute as soon as possible tabulated results and suggested composition of each committee. First person on each committee list will convene the committee.

7. Community Comment from 9:25 – 9:40pm accommodates all community observers who wish to speak.

8. New Business: Elect LSB representatives to PNB Committees.

PNB Finance: Jane Gatewood

PNB Governance: Jane Gatewood, Hakam Takash

PNB Audit: Jim Brown, Carol Wolfe

PNB Technology: Hakam Takash, Kolanji Olusegun,

PNB Programming: Norberto Martinez, Cade Campbell

PNB Archives Task force: Acie Byrd, Steve Hoffman

PNB Development: Joe Chiara

Acie: More than three hours of air time were devoted to honoring one of the SNCC founders, James Forman. It was carried by Pacifica National and covered in the LA Times, Washington Post, and other newspapers. The program will be archived and given to Pacifica to replay. Acie personally commends everyone who participated including, Ron Pinchback, Joni Eisenberg, Rob Robinson, Ayo Handy Kendi, and a number of others. Five members of the LSB were involved plus six or seven members from the staff.

Ron: Would like everyone to know that they came to me with this idea. They made the proposal and I just made the station resources available. I encourage all of you to do the same thing. If you have an idea, make the proposal.

Zarinah: Two items. 1) Memorial for Ossie Davis and there are over 20 speeches in Pacifica archives available. 2) Need to read item distributed related to youth who are not aware of the value of freedom of speech. The LSB needs to address erosion of freedom of speech.

Luzette: Suggests that we revisit how special programs are selected to be on the air. Chair asks that it be presented in writing before the next meeting.

Hakam: Will be submitting a proposal in writing related to the DC Coop and suggests that it be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Adjournment: 10:00 p.m.