

3/09/05 WPFW LSB Meeting - Minutes

March 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
Dan Logan
Gloria Turner
Hakam Takash
Jane Gatewood
Jim Brown
Joe Chiara
Joni Eisenberg
Kalonji Olusegun
Luzette King
Mark Roberts
Norberto Martinez
Rob Robinson
Sarah Bittle
Thomas Ruffin
Zarinah Shakir

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

Ambrose Lane, Katea Stitt, Mark Berman and Steve Hoffman were absent and excused.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda.

Thomas Ruffin moves to add several items to the agenda, as previously suggested by e-mail. The motion is accepted. Items appear below under New Business. With those additions, the agenda is approved.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes.

Jane requests that proposal distributed at previous meeting be attached to the minutes. Carol requests clarification from the parliamentarian who notes that only items discussed, motions, votes, and actions should be part of the minutes. Minutes of the 2/9/05 meeting are approved with one correction.

4. Retreat Follow-up

The retreat summary, consolidated goals, and goals recorded at individual tables are distributed for review by the LSB and discussion at the next LSB meeting.

5. Treasurer's report is submitted and accepted.

6. General Manager's report is submitted and accepted.

7. LSB Committee reports

Report of the LSB Program Committee was submitted and accepted.

MASC committee oral report: Thomas is elected chair, Jonie, if she accepts is elected secretary and Steve Hoffman is elected Vice Chair. No other committee reports submitted pending convening of their first meetings.

Development and Outreach meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23 at station at 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Station promoting the DC Independent Film Festival. Flyer for films distributed. On March 23, can we have a screening of one of the films to explore partnering possibilities. Voices of War may be screened at March 23 meeting.

Billy Ray asks why the Community Advisory Board (CAB) is being formed without LSB involvement. Jim answers that a CAB is required to receive CPB funding of \$270,000. The requirement stipulates that the CAB be completely independent of governing bodies like the LSB. CAB must be in place by March 31 to meet funding requirements.

Motion made by Jane to ask Outreach and Development Committee to work with Jim to form CAB.

Motion amended by Thomas to have the Committee on Inclusion work with Jim to form CAB.

Amended motion is seconded by Norberto.

Amended motion carries with 13 in favor and 2 opposed.

8. PNB Committee reports

9. Community Comment

Community Comment opens at 9:20 p.m. and closes at 10:05 p.m.

10. Old Business

a. Motion is made by Hakam, previously provided to LSB in writing. Hakam reads the motion:

“The WPFW LSB acknowledges that the DC Radio Coop is a collective set up by FSRN, WPFW, DC Indimedia and WBIX to produce news and public affairs content that could be used by WPFW's news division, FSRN, programmers at WPFW and others.

The LSB recognizes that the DC Radio Coop needs to access the stations facilities to produce content and train local activists in reporting and to conduct meetings as necessary.

The LSB recommends that the station manager do all that is necessary to make the above possible in a collaborative and friendly atmosphere.”

Motion is seconded by Noberto.

Ron opposes motion. WPFW did not set up the Radio Coop. Collective formed on its own and that's fine. There are other community organizations that would also like to have unfettered access to WPFW. Radio Coop does have access, which is not contingent on RC membership. The station needs to be accessible to all groups. The station cannot accept a codified relationship with one outside entity unless it does the same for others. Yet, we need to protect WPFW assets. Coop is welcome anytime within the parameters of necessary security and safe use of equipment (e.g. recent computer virus clean-up that cost several thousand dollars). I support the Coop, but I don't support this motion. If they want to use station resources, they use them for the benefit of the station, not another entity. And, WPFW should be acknowledged for offering access.

Cade misses their voice. It was one of the most progressive shows. Gave a voice to young people. They need to be back on.

Zarinah supports having Coop on the air. Proposes to revise motion. Delete “set up by FSRN.” It's not clear what “others” refers to.

Hakam agrees that if this is a sticking point, he will consider amending it.

Motion revised to read:

“The WPFW LSB acknowledges that the DC Radio Coop is a collective set up to produce news and public affairs content that could be used by WPFW's news division, FSRN, programmers at WPFW, and Indimedia.

The LSB recognizes that the DC Radio Coop needs to access the stations facilities to produce content and train local activists in reporting and to conduct meetings as necessary.

The LSB recommends that the station manager do all that is necessary to make the above possible in a collaborative and friendly atmosphere.”

Ron and Hakam agree to accept.

The question is called.

Vote taken to stop discussion and vote. 11 vote yes. 3 vote no. Discussion is closed.

Amended motion is put to the vote. 12 vote yes. 2 opposed. 1 abstention. Amended motion carries.

Luzette request that the record be clarified. A statement needs to be corrected.

New Business

Elect representatives for the National Committee on Inclusion and the Election Review Committee.

Carol volunteers if no one else will be on national Election Review Committee. Two are needed. Jane volunteers. Rob is national rep on committee. Gloria Turner later accepts nomination to take Carol's place.

Committee on Inclusion: Kalonji volunteers. Noberto Martinez volunteers. National rep is probably Ambrose Lane. Jim Brown volunteers as no one else does. We need 3 LSB members.

Cade asks any Board members who are not on committees to put themselves on committees. We need list of Board members to who is on which committees.

Luzette is recognized to clarify some points. Luzette wrote to Night Wolfe twice. He did not respond. GM said ED still dealing with matter. Luzette later spoke with Night Wolfe and it is resolved. Needs to clarify point in the GM's report. Luzette was not involved in Caribbean festival. She arrived at the carnival and began to talk to Vaughn. That is how she got on the air. She was not part of the planning. Requests that we receive GM's report in advance of meeting. Wants this point corrected for the record.

11. New Business

Thomas asks that we delegate the items he added to the agenda to committees since time will not allow addressing them at the meeting. Items below are referred to committees as noted.

1. Jane Gatewood: Set up fair and even-handed process for effectively enabling members to place issues, motions, or items on WPFW Board agenda (how to improve, and how to institutionalize improvements in, current system)(Probably refer to appropriate committee for brief, written report by April 4) Referred to ad hoc Governance Committee and Technology Committee.
2. Joe Chiara: Consider scheduling Saturday WPFW Board meetings that would take place either every other month or every month, but for up to six hours, and would supplement (or every other month replace) our regular three-hour monthly meetings that take place on the second Wednesdays of each month (Probably refer to appropriate committee for brief, written report by April 4) Thomas suggests referring to Development & Outreach or Committee on Inclusion.
3. Steve Hoffman: Consider procedural agreement whereby, with every motion, the WPFW Board considers the essential or "component parts" of each motion so that the board considers thoroughly each motion before it, without adopting a motion without full consideration of the object and the consequences of each motion (Probably refer to appropriate committee for brief, written report by April 4). Referred to ad hoc Governance Committee.
4. Luzette King: Reconsider proposed modifications of the Mark Berman-Tom Gomez Rule about delimiting WPFW Board members' opportunities to host radio shows, whether specials or regular shows, so as to prevent some elected listener members from acquiring unfair advantage over other listener board members who never host a WPFW radio show (Probably refer to appropriate committee for brief, written report by April 4) Referred to Programming Committee.
5. Thomas Ruffin: Proposal for sending complex motions to a WPFW committee for a four-to-six-week review wherein the committee would deliberate upon the motion or idea, decide upon a written but brief recommendation to the whole board, and report back to the WPFW Board the committee's recommendation about the motion; and at that time, after this deliberative process, the board would debate the motion or idea and vote upon whether to adopt it (Probably refer to appropriate committee

for brief, written report by April 4) Referred to ad hoc Governance Committee.

6. Thomas Ruffin: Proposal for mandatory review by WPFW Board of appeals of all committee issues regarding interpretation of bylaws and interpretation of WPFW Board resolutions, and of discretionary review by WPFW Board of appeals of other committee issues which the committees cannot workably resolve (Probably refer to appropriate committee for brief, written report by April 4). Referred to ad hoc Governance Committee.

7. Hakam Takash: Proposal regarding the D.C. Radio Coop (this motion should be disseminated immediately so that we can vote on it). Already addressed.

8. Joe Chiara: Proposal for taking Verna Avery-Brown's office space and using it for station manager or other local station purposes while allotting Verna a smaller but acceptable space (perhaps for rent to Pacifica Foundation)(Probably refer to appropriate committee for brief, written report by April 4). Referred to ad hoc Governance Committee and MASC. Jim will obtain documentation so it can be discussed on the basis of facts.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.