

Minutes

WPFW Local Station Board Special Meeting
2390 Champlain Street NW, Washington, DC 20009
7 February 2007

Meeting convened about 7:30 P.M., Zarinah Shakir serving as chair.

Members present: Acie Byrd, Adriane Jemmott, Alonzo Brown, Ambrose Lane, Ann Hyslop, Arturo Griffiths, Ayo Handy Kendi, Billy Ray Edwards, Carol Wolfe, Dan Logan, Gail Dixon, Gloria Turner, Jim Brown, Marcello Tolliver, Luzette King, Michelle (Noodles) Smith, Norberto Martinez, Thomas Ruffin, Zaccai Free, Zarinah Shakir.

Excused Absences: Joni Eisenberg, Jane Gatewood, Hakam Takash.

Unexcused Absence: Rob Robinson.

Also present: Ron Pinchback, WPFW General Manager, Carl Pfluger, LSB Secretary.

Preliminary Announcement of Special Meeting: Ron reported that Pacifica's legal counsel, Dan Siegel, would be coming to DC to discuss various sensitive legal issues, including policies and conduct regarding confidentiality. Zarinah informed the Board that it must decide which date would be preferable for this meeting, and also choose a location, as the Station's facilities would then probably be required by the pledge drive.

Executive Session to review the vision and performance of the Station's management: Session convened at 7:30 P.M. Zaccai Free moved that the meeting should conclude no later than 10:00 P.M. Approved, 16-0. (As the hour approached, a motion by Thomas Ruffin to extend the time was rejected, 7-5, and the meeting in fact adjourned at 10:15.)

Ron made an oral presentation, based on his written document on the "Shared Vision" of WPFW, which he had distributed in hard copy at the meeting, having previously (February 5th 2007) emailed it to the LSB as an attachment with the file name "manager-vision." Ambrose, seconded by Jim, moved that this document be accepted by the LSB as basis for its discussions. Agreed without objection. Ron then responded to questions.

All members present made some comments or questions. Issues addressed included: staff reorganization; communications between management, staff, and the LSB; LSB participation in outreach and fundraising; technical upgrading; equipment inventory; website development; the demographics of our listener base; Arbitron ratings; union relations (AFTRA); the mix of cultural, educational, and public-affairs components of the Station's (and Pacifica's) mission; training of personnel; conduct of personnel; possibilities (and limits) of partnering with other entities (schools, unions, community groups, etc.); risks of increased FCC fines over "decency" issues; possible use of a "delay" system to protect the Station from such risks.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M., without making any decisions, but with the question left hanging: where do we go from here?