

WPFW- LSB Regular Meeting Minutes May 8, 2024

Teleconference via Zoom Washington, DC

Dennis Williams – Chair

Wayne Bruce – Vice Chair

Kamau Harris –Treasurer

Ellen Williams Carter - Secretary

1. Call to Order started at 6:35 pm

2. Logins/Greetings/Roll Call

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----|-------------------|
| 1. | Anita Irene Adams | 10. | Tony Leon |
| 2. | Vanessa Dixon-Briggs | 11. | Mariah McClain |
| 3. | Verna Avery Brown | 12. | Ambrose Lane Jr. |
| 4. | Michael Byfield | 13. | Minerva F Sanders |
| 5. | Bill Curtis | 14. | Adele M Stan |
| 6. | Violetta Diamond | 15. | Dennis Williams |
| 7. | Robert A. Gordon | 16. | Andrew Kreig |
| 8. | Kamau Harris | 17. | Wanda Gnahoui |
| 9. | Arthur Hyland | 18. | Karen Briggs |

Excused absence: Ron Pinchback, Patrick Morrison, Wayne Bruce, Sue Goodwin, Donna Grimes

3. Resignation: Sarah Brown

4. The agenda was approved.

Time Keeper: Kamau Harris

5. April, 2024 minutes were approved.

6. Management Reports:

- **Miyuki Williams, Interim General Manager, reported:**

Finances

The transmitter will be lowered every evening to lower costs. A bookkeeper won't be replaced. Pacifica's finance manager will provide WPFW's financial information. Pacifica will pay Moe's salary. Committees will

create more events to raise funds. An individual that she met with will do a silent art auction. A car donation was made. A board operator was terminated. Mrs. Turner volunteered to be a receptionist for WPFW. Montgomery County offers \$16,000 for build outs. The station is reviewing the program. She stated that they are trying to get the financial/books information together.

She thanked the following individuals: Addy, Moe, Kamau and Minerva for their help.

- **Katea Stitt, Program Director:** submitted a written report **Attachment A**

It was read by the Chair. The Program Director didn't attend the meeting, she is on vacation.

- **Sataria Joyner, Development, reported:**

Sataria Joyner reported:

The Pledge Drive begins on May 12th and ends on May 25th. Volunteers are needed for the pledge drive. Thank you, gifts are being sent out by Minerva. Programmers are asked to recruit 4 new members during the pledge drive to increase our new members. There is a push to get more sustainers. Craig and Art are working on getting new donors.

Sataria is sending emails to members about the following fundraising event:

WPFW Programmer's Coalition members -Robyn Holden, Craig Williams, Jim Byers, Verna Avery Brown, James Funk, Captain Fly, Tom Cole, Bill Wax, Kim Bey, DJ Zee-Lion, Joni Eisenberg, Arthur McCloud, Donald Temple, Bill Starr, Ron Pinchback, David Whettstone, DJ Abby and others will present a fundraiser at Washington DC's Takoma Station Jazz Club at 6914 4th Street NW Washington, DC. on Sunday, May 26th from 5 until 9pm. Jazz Artist Michael Bowie, international renowned bassist, Hope Udobi (keyboards), Charles Wilson (drums), Grace Jay and Sing Steph (vocals) and others will be featured.

Possible car and land donations are being pursued.

7. Finance Committee

Kamau Harris, chair reported:

They are still trying to get information.

8. Community Comment

Eric Ramey discussed a complaint filed against a former programmer. He announced, On the Ground, Esther Iverem's WPFW program, celebrates its 10th anniversary at Bus Boys and Poets', Brookland, DC

Federick- Wilson reported CAB has started functions to look at the programming goals and to connect the community to the station. There are 6 members in the group. They are trying to build a community survey.

Sabooh Hikim thanked every who attended the retirement.

Starr Bowie is concerned that the April 30th programming didn't mention the problem of indigenous people in Morocco. She reported the following:

On display through September 2024 at the Martin Luther King DC Public Library is, We Who Believe in Freedom: Black Feminist DC, presented as part of a groundbreaking partnership with the National Women's History Museum. We Who Believe in Freedom: Black Feminist DC traces Black feminism in Washington, D.C. from the turn of the 20th century through the civil rights and Black Power movements to today.

9. Relocation Committee

Kamau Harris, chair reported:

They have been meeting each week. ART, Addy, and Miyuki have received calls about properties. American University will not be available. They won't lease their space to WPFW. DC TV sublease is unable to move forward on a sublease. They are still looking at sites. They are looking at 1110 Bonifant St, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Addy and Esther have gone on site visits. Addy said they need a broker. Ambrose said a building that was a former bank in Ward 7, DC may be available.

10. Management Assessment and Search/Evaluation Committee (MASC)

Robert reported:

The MASC outreach subcommittee survey received over 100 responses.

The following responses were received from the community surveys:

- More jazz programming is needed.
- Qualifications of the General Manager must be emphasized.

Tony, Ambrose and Robert are creating interview questions for applicants.

Irene reported:

They fine-tuned the vacancy add/ announcement. Then presented it to the committee. It will be placed on the Pacifica' website and all its networks/affiliates, as well as free nonprofit organizations websites.

Minerva reported:

1. A check list was presented.
2. Discussed a need for a quorum at each meeting.
3. The add will be present on websites for 30 days.
4. Determining how to deal with the resumes.
5. Pull questions together.
6. Should they do paper copies of the resumes and set timelines.

11. PNB Report

Vanessa had concerns about the PNB's response regarding the WPFW budget that was presented. The ED and the IGM may have a meeting about the WPFW budget.

Minerva reported that the Finance committee is reviewing the steps taken regarding the WPFW budget. She stated that the LSB elections will take place this year. By June 30, 2024 you must be a member of WPFW to run for LSB. Members that were elected on December 2021 to the LSB are eligible to run again.

12. Development Committee report

They didn't meet.

13. Community Outreach

Violetta Diamond, chair reported:

- Debriefed on the retirement party that 80 people attended. It went well.

- Discussed the newsletter, major donors, and upcoming events.
- Mariah and Fred will meet with young people.
- 5k Run in September from 1pm to 7pm.
- Mahaila Jackson event
- My body My Festival, May 16 – 18, at 540 Penn St NE Washington DC 20002 and Metrobar, 640 Rhode Island Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002, WPFW will have a table, volunteers are needed.

14. Program/LSB Show Committee report: submitted a written **Attachment B**

Minerva Sanders reported:

They have several questions for the Program Director.

LSB Show

Bill reported that they will Interview: Stephanie Wells, ED May 24.

15. Evaluation Committee

Minerva reported that they are waiting for information regarding questions on the evaluation form.

16. Communication and Standards Committee

No report.

17. Unfinished Business

Underwriting will be addressed at the next meeting.

18. New Business

None

19. Dennis Williams, Chair, Adjourned the regular meeting at 9:44 pm

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Ellen Williams Carter

Attachment A

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT

Katea Stitt

MAY 2024

ONGOING COVERAGE OF PALESTINIAN/CONGO/STUDENT ENCAMPMENTS – Since October, many WPFW Programmers have done an exemplary job of producing programming on this issue, and we have expanded to include coverage of the student encampments across the country and around the globe!

APRIL 6 & 7 – JAZZ IS THE TEACHER; FUNK IS THE PREACHER– Special programming in support of our Relocation fund. Kudos to the Programmers on both days for presenting such amazing content. Fundraising aspect not mine to report.:-)

APRIL 13 –NEA JAZZ MASTERS AWARDS- our annual broadcast of the ceremony. This year’s event happened at the Kennedy Center and honored awardees our own Willard Jenkins, Gary Bartz, Amina Claudine Myers, and Terence Blanchard. It was a beautiful program.

APRIL 30 - INTERNATIONAL JAZZ DAY – Thanks to Brother Jamil, Willard Jenkins, Craig Williams and Candy Shannon for making International Jazz Day a wonderful listen. The broadcast culminated in the UNESCO global all-star Jazz concert being broadcast from Tangier, Morocco. WPFW and Sirius XM were the two US outlets that broadcast the event. For those unfamiliar with International Day, below is a brief primer:

In 2011, UNESCO proclaimed 30 April as "International Jazz Day". UNESCO's aim was to give voice to the message of dialogue and freedom, so the day was created in recognition that jazz brings people together to reinforce respect for the shared values, universal messages of peace, freedom and solidarity that jazz conveys.

International Jazz Day was launched by UNESCO to raise awareness of the virtues of jazz as an educational tool, as a vehicle for peace, unity, dialogue and to enhance cooperation between peoples. Born in the United States and rooted in African traditions, jazz has taken new forms in cultures around the world. Jazz harnesses the world's diversity, effortlessly crossing borders and bringing people and cultures closer together. Harnessing cultural diversity is a task we all share. Let us not forget that jazz resonates joyfully as a force for peace, speaking to the heart.

International Jazz Day is produced by the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz and moves to a different country each year.

SPRING PLEDGE DRIVE – Our drive theme and description are below. Strategic substitutions will again be made throughout the grid to get as close to goal as possible, as well as offer two Community gifts – one centering Palestinian women and children and the other centering Congolese women – to increase goodwill, and support entities doing great work on the ground in these locations. Our Development Department shares all figures regarding the drive. Drive theme below:

WPFW : 47 YEARS OF EDUCATION FOR LIBERATION

Nelson Mandela said that education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world! WPFW has been utilizing education in the service of liberation for over 47 years by presenting informative and insightful programming, both cultural and political, to enrich mind, body and spirit.

From Sunday, May 12th through Saturday, May 25th, we invite you to support this university of the air during our spring pledge drive by visiting wpfwfm.org! WPFW, building a better world, one broadcast at a time!

It’s a simple theme, and can be utilized in a variety of ways, so that all of our Programmers should be able to connect with it, and impart the sentiment clearly and passionately to our audience.

PROPOSED PRIDE PARADE PROGRAMMING (SARAH BROWN) – As previously noted, the proposal and her criticisms were shared with WPFW’s LGBTQIA+ collective Inside Out. Attached is their response.

PROGRAMMERS’ HANDBOOK AND BILL OF RIGHTS – Tom Cole graciously agreed to take the leadership on this, and is awaiting feedback from committee members’ review of both, after which they will meet to finalize both documents in order to present them to Programmers.

PROGRAMMERS’ SELF EVALUATION AND STATION EVALUATION – Almost 100% of our Programmers participated! We are distilling replies into a spreadsheet, which we will share with all stakeholders after sharing with the Programmers. Many had insightful feedback about their own show, and ways to improve WPFW.

UPCOMING SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

APRIL 15 – RADIO FREE PALESTINE BROADCAST COMMEMORATING NAKBAH DAY - For those that may not know, May 15th marks the 76th anniversary of what is known as Al-Nakba or translated, The Great Catastrophe, when in 1948 Palestinians were expelled from their homes. 750,000 Palestinians were displaced at that time.

After several years of partnering with Laith Marouf and Radio Free Palestine, WPFW was asked to be the English language hub for the 2024 edition of the program. We are honored to do so after being a contributor to the program for several years! The broadcast will run on May 15, Nakba Day, from midnight to midnight, and as Producer, we are able to structure the segments so that there is 5 minutes at the end of each hour for stations, including ours, to fundraise, do housekeeping, etc. Official language below:

On Wednesday May 15th, 2024, the 76th anniversary of the ongoing Palestinian Nakbah and resistance to Israeli Apartheid, Radio Free Palestine will launch at Midnight EST on WPFW and dozens of stations across North America to air 24 hours of programming from radio stations and producers across 5 continents. There will be separate streams in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

Our presentation will be in English, and include discussions, speeches, music, poetry and updates on and the voices of students currently or previously participating in encampments. That’s Radio Free Palestine beginning at midnight, May 15 on WPFW, radio for the resistance!

MAY 31 5AM - MIDNIGHT– CELEBRATING SAM “THE MAN” BURNS - May 31st is the birthdate of Sam The Man Burns, but also the day of the District government’s street naming ceremony. Sam "The Man" Burns Way is on 18th Street between M & N. The Ceremony will be right there in Longfellow Park at noon. Sam championed House Music, and the day will explore various aspects of influence, and will include both WPFW and non-WPFW hosts/musicologists. Kudos to our own Rita Burns, for curating this wonderful tribute. Details to come.

Programmer Millie Ware has been relieved of her duties as a WPFW Programmer,

Should you have questions about my report, please feel free to email or text me - 301.613.5578.

Katea Stitt

She//Hers

Program Director

WPFW/Pacifica Radio

89.3fm wpfwm.org

@WPFWDC

The rage of the oppressed is never the same as the rage of the privileged-bell hooks

Attachment B

Program Committee Meeting

Minutes April 22, 2024

Minerva Sanders Irene Adams
Marsha Edwards Martha Peterson
Saboh Hikim Eric Ramey
Verna Avery Brown Vanessa Dixon–Briggs
Bill Curtis

Patrick Morrison - Excused

Katea Stitt -traveling.

Esther Iverem Donna Grimes

The meeting began at 7:08 pm. Roll call of members with absent and excused members noted.

Minutes from March meeting with additions, actions, changes or correction accepted minutes without any changes.

Future minutes will be sent out to the group to make a change to minutes. All changes should be made by the 1st Sunday/Monday of the month. Then send it to the LSB secretary on the Monday before the LSB meeting on the second Wednesday.

PD Programming and Grid interaction need to be established between the committee and Program Director. Concern was expressed that there are no interactions between PD and the Program Committee.

Questions for Program Director:

Martha- What is the process for selecting a new host when a programmer is no longer on air?

What is the process used to locate a replacement programmer?

Additional questions attached from committee member (Marsha E) sent to PD in November of 2023.

Eric -PD involved in election process was an overreach. Not listed in the job description in the election process. Contacted election supervisor and made derogatory comments about a candidate. Not part of the job description.

By laws commands there be a relationship between committee an

Verna stated there is a legal issue as to why PD does not participate with the committee. It was suggested it be taken to the top to find out why not.

Pacifica Bylaws speaks to the PD and radio staff who work collaboratively with the Program Committee.

Dictionary- states collaboration -means work jointly on an activity, especially to produce or create something. The committee is looking at performance per job description.

One member of the committee continues to state the committee is being stood up to do work as directed by the PD. The majority states no we are working together to bring forward ideas.

Simple questions about what the boundaries for the committee are or identify the involvement and support of the PD to job description.

Clear and open lines of communication between PD and committee.

Currently there is no communication setup.

Asked that questions from committee member to PD be resubmitted. Either PD will address questions.

The committee meeting in May will need to change since the date of the meeting is Memorial Day.

LSB show with Miyuki Williams, IGM as guest. Questions related to future WPFW Activities.

Meeting closed at 8:45 pm

Date: Tue, Nov 28, 2023, at 1:43 PM

Subject: Re: Questionnaire draft

Good afternoon, Minerva,

Questions for PD:

☒ Please provide written, complete, clean grid records for the past five (5) calendar years.

☒ Please provide a written accounting of all funds raised within any programming slot for the past five (5) years.

☒ Please provide a written statement describing the criteria relied upon for airing all programs that have been or are being aired on WPFW.

☒ Please provide a written statement describing the criteria relied upon for the scheduling of any and all programs aired on WPFW for the past five (5) years.

☒ Please provide a written statement describing the criteria relied upon for the cancellation of all programs aired on WPFW for the past five (5) years.

In addition to the questions above that I have raised in the past, there are a few other matters that

I wanted to address during last night's committee meeting before I realized that the program

director had left the meeting without announcing her departure. If you could, in your capacity as

committee chair, also please forward the following questions to the program director:

Mention was made of a "probation period" for a recently proposed program. Please provide a full description of the probation process, as well as how long this process has been in practice.

☒ I would also like to know whether there exists a standardized practice in place by which

Individuals who are interested in being programmers can apply, and if there is, please.

provide the criteria.

Thanks for your assistance, and please post any responses in the committee's email chain so that.

Everyone will have access to this information. Additionally, please feel free to share with me.

questions with any WPFW staff whose input would be beneficial. Finally, I hope that by the

At the next meeting we can request that any statements attributed to absent sources must be.

corroborated by the individual(s) to whom the statements are attributed. For the sake of clarity,

transparency, and accuracy, we should work to ensure that any statements that end up in us.

official records can be verified objectively.

Thanks again,

Marsha