

WPFW- LSB Regular Meeting Minutes June 11, 2025

Teleconference via Zoom Washington, DC

Kamau Harris – Chair

Robert Gordon – Vice Chair

Thomas Chase - Treasurer

Ellen Williams Carter – Secretary

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Verna Avery Brown | 12. Mariah McClain |
| 2. Violetta Diamond | 13. Robert Gordon |
| 3. Wanda Gnahoui | 14. Ambrose Lane Jr. |
| 4. David Kiasi | 15. Susan C Goodwin |
| 5. Kamau Harris | 16. Ron Pinchback |
| 6. Minerva Sanders | 17. Dennis Williams |
| 7. Michele Tingling-Clemmons | 18. Thomas Chase non-voting |
| 8. Wayne Bruce | 19. Ellen Carter non-voting |
| 9. Michael Byfield | |
| 10. Vanessa Dixon Briggs | |
| 11. Michael Hersh | |

1. Call to Order started at 6:32 pm with Chair, Kamau Harris

2. Logins/Greetings/Roll Call

Excused Absences & Timekeepers

Excused Absences: Arthur Hyland, Craig Green, Anita Irene Adams, Tony Leon, Julie Hewitt, Bill Curtis

Resignation: No resignations.

Timekeeper: Robert Gordon

3. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Agenda: The agenda was approved.

Minutes: The March 12, 2025 minutes will be approved during the July 9, 2025 meeting. The May 14, 2025 minutes were approved.

4. Management Report

➤ **Miyuki Williams Interim GM, reported:**

Will send a written report.

Off Air

The station was off the air at 5:30pm because someone climbed on the transmitter tower. Although the person is still on the tower the station is now on the air but may go off at any time.

May Pledge Drive

The IGM thanked those who answered phones during the drive. In addition, she thanked Sataria, Katea, and Vinnie who developed a package to get gifts that cost nothing.

Jazz and Justice Festival

The Josephine Butler Organization will participate and their building will be available for vendors. The festival is not a fundraiser it is a marketing opportunity. The IGM suggested that the LSB have a table at the event.

Barbeque in the Park

She would like to do a get together and barbeque in the park with the staff, programmers and the LSB.

Michael Hersh thanked the staff for their hard work.

➤ **Katea Stitt, PD (A report was submitted: Attachment A)**

The Program Director was unable to attend the meeting. Miyuki Williams Interim GM, read her report that is **Attachment A**.

➤ **Sataria Joyner, Membership Report (A report was submitted: Attachment B)**

May 2025 Drive was May 3rd thru the May 19th.

The was Goal: \$235,000.

Amounts from Calls and Website: \$213,000

Amounts from Paypal & CashApp: \$10,408

Total raised: \$223,408

–11,592

Next Drive Dates:

August 3-16, 2025

October 5-25, 2025

December 14-20, 2025

5. Finance Committee Report (A Report was submitted: Attachment C)

Thoms Chase, Treasurer Finance Report:

Revenue \$76, 000

In- Kind \$56, 000

The Cash flow is up to date (health benefits \$30, 000)

Outstanding bills:

1. Version \$25,000

2. Music Licensing

Dennis thanked Tom for staying on and continuing to present the finance information.

6. Relocation Committee Report

Dennis Williams, Chair was absent so Kamau attended the meeting and reported:

The WPFW stakeholders survey (listeners, donors, programmers, staff, community activists, etc.) is open until June 30th.

The Treasurer, Thomas Chase discussed financial concerns about relocating.

A master schedule was worked on by Dennis and members of the committee.

Ambrose said he sent information about Whiteman Walker building at Sycamore and Oak.

7. Community Outreach Committee Report

Violette Diamond, Chair

The committee members were debriefed on the Town Hall and discussed trying to pick issues for the agenda that will bring the community to attend the event.

The upcoming events and newsletter were discussed:

- September13, 2025 5k Run/Walk,
- Newsletter is ready and available
- Membership drive

- Table for the June 22 Jazz and Justice Festival

8. Community Comment

Martha Peterson wants Vanessa to provide details about WPFW ratings. Vanessa agreed to share it.

Renee Bowser asked does the Pacifica Foundation have a definition of what is educational programming. Kamau will present her question to the PNB chair of the committee.

Joni Eisenberg suggested that the LSB listen to the programming. She is concerned about the bylaws. Joni said we need to discuss the bylaws with the community. She is excited about the Jazz and Justice Festival.

Sabooh Hikim asked where is the money for the Jazz and Justice Festival event coming from? Miyuki Williams, IGM said they received two grants.

Carol Wolfrey said she is inspired by the Jazz and Justice Festival. Wants to let everyone is doing programming on no Kings Day. Carol would live coverage of the “No Kings Day” protests on June 14, 2025. She said the bylaws will not shut down WPFW or WBAI. Carol appreciates what Sue Goodwin is doing with the News.

9. Program Committee Report

Minerva Sanders, Chair

The Committee didn’t meet.

10. Anti-bullying & Communications Training

Ms. Auaja Lovest presented the training.

11. Nominations for Open Delegate Seat

The nominations will be open until 11:59pm, June 25, 2025. The nominations will be accepted during the July 9, 2025 meeting.

The following individuals were nominated during the June 12, 2025 meeting:

- Junette Pinkney was nominated by Verna and Sue.
- Damian Bascomb was nominated Michael Byfield and Ambrose Lane.

Motion for a Listener Delegate

Motion that the board prepare a PSA for a listener delegate

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to open the nominations for one month

Vote: Motion failed

12. PNB Director's Report

Ron's report:

He is concerned about the Governance Structure as set out in the new bylaws. Ron feels that the new bylaws need to be vetted out, discussed and clearly talk about the terms and responsibility of LSB members.

Minerva's Report:

She said the LSB members can go to the Pacifica Foundation website to get clarification on the New Bylaws. She further discussed what is on the Pacifica Foundation website.

Dennis's report:

- Meetings: Passed a motion for in person meetings
- Submitted the plan to the ED for insurance security
- Executive Session: appointed a review of malfeasants of delegates and directors.

13. Bylaws Changes and Implementation

An appeal has been presented.

14. Unfinished Business

- **Board Retreat at DCTV (Member Byfield)**
Michael said he had nothing to add about the retreat.
- **BOR/Grievance Procedures (Member Leon)**
Kamau shared the communication from the Executive Director.
Michael Byfield said another station has their BOR/Grievance Procedures posted.
- **Community Watch/Comment Grid (Member Byfield)**
This was not discussed.

17. Kamau Harris, Chair, Adjourned the Regular Meeting at 10:44 pm

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Ellen Williams Carter

Attachment A

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT

JUNE 2025

In addition to regular PD duties, the projects listed below were also spearheaded by me, and are now underway or still manifesting:

WPFW JAZZ AND JUSTICE FESTIVAL IN COLLABORATION WITH PARKS AND PEOPLE

Producing event which includes helping to book artists; working with budget, working with volunteers to create activations throughout the park; securing stage, sound, backline and tents; overseeing general execution of festival. The festival runs noon-8pm, Sunday, June 22. If interested in working with any of the following activations – Elders Circle/Telling Our Stories; Children’s Circle; Liberatory Justice Circle; Labor Circle; Wellness Circle – please contact me.

COMMUNITY WATCH & COMMENT RESPONSE

Community Watch and Comment, airing 11am until noon, began almost 20 years ago as a strip devoted to call-ins. Over the years, the quality of this only call-in programming suffered due to the number of diverse callers. We’re often left with the same callers several times a day and to new listeners it has been said to sound like a club, which isn’t good for welcoming in new listeners, and by extension, donors.

As of now, the Tuesday and Friday shows offer consistent opportunities for call-ins. We also have several programs throughout the grid that open the phone lines, so callers are not incorporated into or limited to Community Watch and Comment only.

We are working to fill 11am Mondays. Wednesdays is David Whettstone, who does open the phones on occasion. Thursdays is syndicated programming - Code Pink.

There is no formula for caller times/numbers/engagement, but most programs except for the syndicated ones include callers at least once a month.

SOCIAL MEDIA INITIATIVE

We continue to work closely with Kwadjo to primarily brand WPFW by telling our story, both historical and contemporary; highlighting regular and special programming; and educating on what listener-supported radio and WPFW are, their significance, and how to support us through compelling visual and video content. Please check out and share our Instagram profile – WPFWDC. By doing this, you'll be helping grow WPFW! We utilized the IG campaign to amplify our James Brown special, which got significant engagement, and will utilize it for Radio Free Palestine and Malcolm X centennial programming. We also used Mariah video promoting upcoming LSB Town Hall as a reel on IG, and it too enjoyed significant engagement; finally, Kwadjo has created a series of reels (videos) titled Moments in Jazz and Justice featuring iconic Jazz musicians speaking about, or performing a piece that spoke to social justice. They are wonderful. Look out to them.

UPCOMING SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

OUR ANCESTORS' WILDEST DREAMS: JUNETEENTH IN THE AGE OF ERASURE – JUNE 19

Working with Thomas Blanton and Thursday Programmers to create a special day of programming, which we've presented for over a decade now.

THE HOUSE THAN WANDA BUILT – JUNE 30

As we've done for over a decade, we dedicate our commemoration of Pride month to Beloved DC gay activist, Wanda Alston, a fierce advocate of housing programs for homeless and at-risk LGBTQ youth.

On Monday, June 30, WPFW will present *The House That Wanda Built 2025*, our Pride special Programming. From 9am until midnight, we'll broadcast voices, discuss issues, and present music honoring the life and legacy of Wanda Alston and all our LGBTQIA+ family.!

PAST SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

REVOLUTION OF THE MIND: UNPACKING THE GENIUS AND TORMENT OF JAMES BROWN – MAY 3

We began our Spring Pledge Drive on May 3, with honoring the birthdate of James Joseph Brown, suggested by Programmer Scooter Magruder. The contributions of all the Programmers were stellar - presenting his music, delving into his complicated and tumultuous family history and sometimes troubling behavior, and celebrating his artistic and entrepreneurial legacy and his activism. Brown believed in Black economic empowerment as a pathway to Black liberation. All of this was highlighted and made for an extremely strong financial start to the pledge drive.

BLACK SHINING PRINCE: MALCOLM X AT 100

We closed our Spring Pledge Drive on May 19 by celebrating and unpacking the life and legacy of one of the most brilliant and charismatic intellectuals and Pan-Africanists of the 20th Century on his centennial. The teachings, speeches and writings of el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz continue to impact, inform, and guide millions around the world in their quest for liberation. The title is a reference to Ossie Davis' eulogy of Malcolm X where he referred to him as "our own Black shining prince." We offered a WPFW curated Malcolm Lives and our Black Shining Prince programming on June 19 as downloadable gifts exclusively available only on that day.

RADIO FREE PALESTINE – 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAKBA

Thursday May 15th marked the 77th anniversary of the ongoing Palestinian Nakba, or catastrophe, and the people's resistance. Radio Free Palestine is special programming marking this day and ran from 8am until 7pm on WPFW and stations across North America to air programming from radio stations and producers across 5 continents. There were separate streams in Arabic, English, French and Spanish. WPFW produced the English stream for Radio Free Palestine, and included discussions, speeches, music, poetry and updates on the ongoing genocide and resistance. Content was contributed by a number of WPFW Programmers, Brigade member Cody Valentine, Palestinian Youth Movement DC, and Producers from CKDU (Halifax, Nova Scotia); KBOO (Portland, Oregon), both of which are also carried it along with CFRC (Kingston, Ontario). WBAI also carried broadcast segments.

WPFW became the Executive Producer of the English language stream when Founder and Producer, Laith Marouf who worked with the Canadian stations before having to return to his

home country of Lebanon after October 2023, where his family still lives. Because of WPFW's contribution of both content and carriage for several years, he asked if I/we would take the lead to ensure the continuation of the English language stream since he was no longer to carry it from Lebanon. He is an excellent and well-respected journalist, and like so many in Lebanon, has been having an increasingly difficult time due to the Israeli governments bombing of the country. This year's program is especially poignant given the utter and unrelenting devastation and decimation of the Palestinian people we've witnessed over 17 months. This special is dedicated to the resilient spirit of Laith, and the Palestinian people.

PSAS AND PROMOS

I continuously write, edit, choose music for all PSAs and Promos, with production assistance from our engineers.

OTHER DUTIES

Coordinating Subs

Curating additional and/or special programming

Board-Oping when necessary

Correspondence and phone calls with Listeners as necessary

Other duties as assigned or required.

Attachment B

Sataria Joyner, Membership Report

LSB Membership Report June 2025

OP2505 -May Drive Overview

Goal: \$235,000

Calls and Website: \$213,000

Paypal & CashApp: \$10,408

Total: \$223,408

-11,592

Upcoming Pledge Drives

August 3-16, 2025

October 5-25, 2025

December 14-20, 2025

Events on the Horizon

Jazz and Justice Festival: Art in the Park on June 22

We are looking for vendors(gm@wpfw.org), food trucks(sjoyner@wpfw.org), and volunteers(volunteers@wpfw.org). Contact us if you have a lead or wish to sign up.

As of 06/09/25 at 11pm there are 544 RSVPs.

Please help spread the word and don't forget to RSVP. We'd like at least 1500 RSVPs for this event. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jazz-justice-festival-tickets-1378214810599?aff=oddtcreator>.

Legacy Listener Circle

We recently sent out an eblast with information about the Circle. I strongly encourage you to read it and join. You've already demonstrated your love and dedication to WPFW. We are asking you to take the next step.

<https://t.e2ma.net/webview/n3n6jn/84f0d90a9d97e15c5d8ab01e02ef6322>

Attachment C

Thomas Chase, Treasurer, Finance Report

WPFW Financial History

Fiscal Year	Revenue	Expenses	Net Revenue
2011	1,606,516	1,564,160	42,356
2012	1,443,307	1,700,256	(256,949)
2013	1,204,377	1,661,234	(456,857)
2014	1,236,673	1,501,272	(264,599)
2015	1,141,554	1,256,741	(115,187)

2016	1,066,832	1,307,520	(240,688)
2017	1,142,833	1,274,678	(131,845)
2018	1,470,992	1,307,520	163,472
2019	1,224,888	1,432,348	(207,460)
2020	1,393,924	1,509,889	(115,965)
2021	1,593,533	1,532,281	61,252
2022	1,465,636	1,579,430	(113,794)
2023	1,387,554	1,674,063	(286,509)
2024	1,446,020	1,635,940	(189,920)
2025	1,410,537	1,334,411	76,127
Total	20,235,176	22,271,743	(2,036,566)

Notes

