

WPFW- LSB Regular Meeting Minutes July 9, 2025

Teleconference via Zoom Washington, DC

Kamau Harris – Chair

Robert Gordon – Vice Chair

Thomas Chase - Treasurer

Ellen Williams Carter - Secretary

1. Call to Order started at 6:35 pm with Chair, Kamau Harris

2. Logins/Greetings/Roll Call

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Ambrose Lane Jr. | 13. Tony Leon |
| 2. Bill Curtis | 14. Mariah McClain |
| 3. Craig Green | 15. Robert Gordon |
| 4. Julie Hewitt | 16. Michael Hersh |
| 5. Arthur Hyland | 17. Wanda Gnahoui |
| 6. David Kiasi | 18. Dennis Williams |
| 7. Verna Avery Brown | 19. Violetta Diamond |
| 8. Minerva Sanders | 20. Susan C Goodwin |
| 9. Michele Tingling-Clemmons | 21. Kamau Harris |
| 10. Wayne Bruce | 22. Ron Pinchback |
| 11. Michael Byfield | 23. Thomas Chase non-voting |
| 12. Vanessa Dixon Briggs | 24. Ellen Carter non-voting |

Excused Absence: Anita Irene Adams

3. Resignation: No resignations.

4. Approval of the Agenda and March 12, 2025 and June 11, 2025 Minutes

5. Program Director Report (Attachment A written report submitted by PD)

Katea Stitt, Program Director:

Jazz and Justice Festival

She produced the Jazz and Justice Festival. Management is in discussions with Washington Parks and People, Brigade member Brian Burns III, and Dr. Ted Watkins about shooting and producing a health series at the Josephine Butler center.

Programming Changes

Rev. Mark Thompson a new program, Make It Plain, airing Mondays, 11am.

Margaret Prescod will return with Sojourner Truth with a co-host.

Special Programming

- Worked with Thomas Blanton and Denise Young, we presented a Juneteenth special
- THE HOUSE THAN WANDA BUILT – JUNE 30
- FROM MISSISSIPPI TO THE CONGO: 100 YEARS OF LUMUMBA AND MEDGAR – JULY 2
- HIGHER: THE POETIC GENIUS OF SEKOU SUNDIATA AND THE MUSICAL INNOVATION OF SLY STONE – JULY 4
- Upcoming Hip Hop 20th hurricane

6. Membership Coordinator Report (Attachment B written report submitted by Membership Coordinator)

Sataria Joyner, Membership Coordinator:

Jazz and Justice Festival

She wanted to thank everyone who helped with the Jazz and Justice Festival.

Pledge Drive

The May 2025 pledge drive has \$18,000 outstanding from those who have not paid: the result is a 91% fulfillment. The next Pledge Drive begins on August 3 through August 16, 2025. The goal is \$175,000. Volunteers are needed to answer the phones.

7. Interim General Manager Report (Attachment C written report submitted by IGM)

Miyuki Williams, Interim General Manager:

Transmitter Tower

On Friday, June 13th a man jumped off the transmitter tower, as a result the station was off the air. Then a fire occurred as a result of a rodent in the tower. Now, \$30,000 is needed to repair the transmitter. We are airing at low power presently.

Jazz and Justice Festival

Over 5,000 people attended the Jazz and Justice Festival. During the festival, WPFW's talented members were spotlighted.

8. Finance Committee Report (Attachment D written report submitted by Thomas Chase)

Thomas Chase, Chair:

Transmitter

For the transmitter emergency \$6000 was needed. Another \$20,000 is needed for work on the transmitter.

Jazz and Justice Festival

The station broke even on the Jazz and Justice Festival because we received in kind DC Government support for the Soul Searchers performance and a grant of \$15, 000.

Health Benefits

On June 1, 2025, the station was able to catch up on health benefit payments.

Outstanding

Verizon and Music License payments need to be made.

9. Relocation Committee Report (Attachment E written report submitted by Dennis Williams)

Dennis Williams, Chair:

They met last week. The next meeting is on Monday.

The committee will review the results of the stakeholder survey on desired space for a permanent WPFW home. They are looking for another broker.

10. Community Outreach Committee Report

Violetta

The committee didn't meet. During the next meeting, they will discuss the September 13, 2025, 5K Run/Walk.

11. Community Comment

Martha wants the link regarding the WPFW listenership that Vanessa said she will provide.

Carol from KPFA wants to see how Pacifica stations can work together nationally for news programming.

12. Program Committee Report

They have not met. During the next meeting, they will look at the grid.

13. Nominations for Open Delegate Seat

Junette Pinkney was Nominated

➤ Motion: from Tony Leon

I move that we have the nominations stay open for 4 weeks to air a PSA and post it on the WPFW website.

Vote: 11 No 4 Abstention 3 Yes

The motion wasn't approved.

➤ Motion from Dennis Williams

I move that we accept Ms. Junette Pinkney as our new member delegate by acclamation.

The motion was approved.

14. PNB Director's Reports

Ron said the PNB approved a moratorium on in-person meetings.

Minerva asked the members to dial into the PNB meeting tomorrow, July 10th. The Court said they will take into consideration the interveners request regarding the bylaws.

Dennis said the new bylaws were approved by the courts.

15. Unfinished Business

- **Bylaws Changes and Implications** (Member Tingling-Clemmons)

The members were advised to dial into the PNB meeting tomorrow, July 10th.

- **BOR/Grievance Procedures (Members Leon and Byfield)**

Tony Leon and Michael Byfield wanted the Procedures posted on the website. Kamau sent an email to the ED to get the procedures posted.

➤ Motion 1 presented by Tony Leon.

I move that the PNB directors should escalate the request to the ED to have the Bill of Rights and Grievance Procedures placed on the WPFW website.

Vote: The motion failed.

➤ Motion 2 presented by Tony Leon.

I move that the Management will send the Bill of Rights and Grievance Procedures to all the programmers via the list serve.

Vote: The motion was approved

16. New Business

Fundraising after passage of Budget Bill

Proposals (Member Hersh)

New Member Orientation (Member Tingling-Clemmons)

17. Action Items/Summary

18. Adjourn: Kamau Harris, Chair, Adjourned the Regular Meeting at 10:12pm

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Ellen Williams Carter

Attachment A

Katea Stitt, Program Director

PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT

JULY 2025

In addition to regular PD duties, the projects listed below reflect a summary of my work:

WPFW JAZZ AND JUSTICE FESTIVAL IN COLLABORATION WITH PARKS AND PEOPLE

We successfully produced WPFW's inaugural Jazz and Justice Festival which included 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 ran noon-8pm, on Sunday, June 22. In addition to the main stage, we presented wraparound activations including the Elders Circle produced by WPFW's Brigade group; Children's Circle produced by Johanna Stitt-Abow; the Labor and Wellness Circles produced by Joni Eisenberg; and the Liberatory Justice Circle, produced by me, a film activation produced by Jordan Strudwick. The festival has garnered positive feedback from both our internal WPFW community, and the larger listening community who either attended or listened to our live broadcast. Many of our WPFW community performed, including Saïs Kamalidin, Proverbs Reggae Band (Ziah of Kulcha Shak), Ka'Ba Soulsinger, and DJs Abby, Lance Reynolds, Rita Burns, and Underdog. Many WPFW hands made the event lighter work! The festival was produced in collaboration with Washington Parks and People, and some the activations were held at the Josephine Butler Center.

PROGRAMMING UPDATES/CHANGES:

Rev. Mark Thompson has joined the WPFW family with a new program, *Make It Plain*, airing Mondays, 11am.

We've been in discussions with Margaret Prescod about the return of *Sojourner Truth*. Margaret took time off after reducing her commitment at KPFK to a once-a-week volunteer. She's

returning to KPFFK with a co-host, and we are discussing how WPFW can once again carry the stellar program.

We are in discussions with Washington Parks and People, Brigade member Brian Burns III, and Dr. Ted Watkins about shooting and producing a health series at the Josephine Butler center to both deepen our partnership and creating consistent content to populate our YouTube channel.

Another possibility for our YouTube channel will be an on-location visual arts program hosted by Adrian Ferguson, founder of Art of Noize Gallery, entitled *In the Studio*. The program, which is just in the discussion stage, would highlight local and regional visual artists and their work, and would be shot in their studios/creation spaces, as well as cover the offerings of the galleries and museums in the DMV. Adrian was also one of our community partners, and curated a visual arts activation.

UPCOMING SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

We are working with the Hip Hop Caucus to create special programming recognizing the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina on Friday, August 29.

PAST SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

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

Worked with Thomas Blanton and Denise Young, we presented a Juneteenth special from 11am to noon, which convened a panel to discuss what honoring Juneteenth means in the context of the hostile political climate.

THE HOUSE THAN WANDA BUILT – JUNE 30

As we've done for over a decade, on the last day of June, WPFW commemorated Pride month with our annual Pride month programming dedicated to Beloved DC Black queer activist, Wanda Alston, a fierce advocate of housing programs for homeless and at-risk LGBTQ youth. Our LBTQIA+ programmers, the Inside Out Collective, produced *The House That Wanda Built 2025*.

From 9am until midnight, we broadcasted voices, discussed issues, and presented music honoring the life and legacy of Wanda Alston and all our LGBTQIA+ family!

FROM MISSISSIPPI TO THE CONGO: 100 YEARS OF LUMUMBA AND MEDGAR – JULY 2

While Medgar Evers and Patrice Lumumba were not personally acquainted, their lives and struggles are often commemorated together due to the parallels in their commitment to fighting for the self-determination and liberation of African people. WPFW, in partnership with Friends of the Congo, celebrated the centennial of this parallel vision with From Mississippi to the Congo: 100 Years of Lumumba and Medgar last Wednesday, noon until midnight.

HIGHER: THE POETIC GENIUS OF SEKOU SUNDIATA AND THE MUSICAL INNOVATION OF SLY STONE – JULY 4

This past Friday, 9am – 7pm, WPFW presented *Higher: The Poetic Genius of Sekou Sundiata and the Musical Innovation of Sly Stone* from 9am until 7pm. We begin at 11am with an airing of Sekou Sundiata's 51st Dream State, a multi-media meditation on empire. At 11am, our multi-faceted exploration of Sly Stone kicked off with Brother Jamil; James Funk 1pm, and Lance Reynolds at 4pm.

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 Coordinator Report

During our all-station meeting, Verna asked for a comparison of previous drives to ascertain how the May special programming performed. My apologies for taking so long to provide this.

LSB Membership Report July 2025

OP2505 -May Drive Special Programming Comparison

May 3, 2025 James Brown Special. The first day and Saturday of OP2505 \$14,000

May 19, 2025 Malcolm X Special. The third Monday of the drive \$11,600

OP2405 -May Drive 2024

May 18, 2024 The first Saturday of the drive: \$26,000

May 27, 2024 The third Monday of the drive \$6750

OP2305 -May Drive 2023

May 13 2023 The first Saturday: \$19000

May 22 2023 The third Monday of the drive: \$14500

Upcoming Pledge Drives

August 3-16, 2025 GOAL \$175,000 We are looking for YOU to sign up to answer phones. Email Vinnie at volunteers@wpfw.org.

October 5-25, 2025

December 14-20, 2025

Jazz and Justice Festival:

It was very well attended. We are still assessing its income gross vs net. The new shirts did not make back the initial investment by the major donor but we have more of them. We should have more specific numbers by next meeting and most likely ahead of it.

Legacy Listener Circle

Once again, 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

Miyuki Williams, Interim General Manager

IGM Report July 2025

Transmitter

June 17 a rodent caused our power box to catch fire, Pepco cut power. Moe was able to put us on a generator. Later we have started “borrowing” power from WAMU. Free State electrons charged us \$6000 for the connection, and additional \$20K for the box repair, which was completed on July 2. We were able to schedule an inspection from DOB Monday July 7, we are currently waiting for Pepco to reconnect us. We have been broadcasting at low power since.

The frequency of outages are too much. Moe and Frenchy are installing a system that will alert engineers. Programmers and engineers need a system they can check in real time.

This event is not covered by insurance. Tom Chase is looking into grants we may qualify for some grants. This is a huge hit on our budget.

Jazz & Justice Festival 2025

The Jazz & Justice Festival was a hit. Washington Parks and People estimated attendance to be over 5000 through course of the day, 1000 at its fullest towards the end of the day. The feedback has been mostly positive. Giving consideration to making this an annual event. Want to thank LSB members Kamau, Dennis, Verna, Wanda and Mariah for working with us.

The Festival successfully spotlighted WPFW talent. Many Programmers participated

Staff

Please congratulate Sataria for 25 years of service to WPFW.

Please welcome Tom Chase and Robert Frazier has Staff volunteers.

Summer Drive

August 3-16. We would appreciate phone volunteers and support of WPFW.

Attachment D

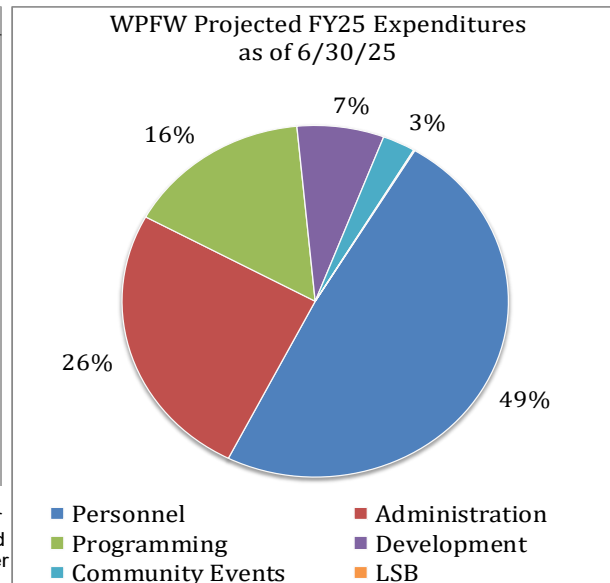
Thomas Chase, chair of the Finance Committee

Finance Report

WPFW 2025 Financial Analysis		
	Budget 2025	Projected 2025
Revenue	\$1,387,000	\$1,420,843
Listener Contributions		1,367,843
In-Kind Contributions		53,000
Grants		15,000
Expenses		
Personnel	680,800	669,120
Administration	349,833	350,077
Programming	207,500	212,826
Development	67,000	99,848
Community Events		37,676
LSB	5,000	1,300
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,310,133	\$1,370,848
Net Revenue	\$76,867	\$49,995

Notes:

1. Overall, June operations consistent with budget, except for \$26k emergency expenses for temporary (\$6k in June) and permanent (\$20k in July) repairs following the recent power failure at the transmitter.
2. A \$15,000 Diverse City grant and \$3,000 in-kind contribution from DC allowed the Jazz & Justice Festival to break-even.
3. Additional, significant expenditures are needed for tower resiliency, staffing, fundraising software, and more; management is exploring additional grant opportunities to address these needs.



Attachment E

WPFW Relocation Committee

July 2025 report

Dennis Williams, Chair

The Relocation Committee met on Zoom on June 25.

Treasurer Tom Chase reviewed a strategic planning model he had developed including a range of financial considerations and timelines for our work. The proposal was shared with the committee for discussion and possible implementation at our next meeting, July 16th.

At that time the committee will also review the results of the stakeholder survey on desired space for a permanent home. Those results will shape our decisions as we proceed through the year.