

WPFW- LSB Regular Meeting Minutes September 10, 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 6:42 pm with Chair, Kamau Harris

2. Logins/Greetings/Roll Call

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Verna Avery Brown | 12. Vanessa Dixon Briggs |
| 2. Bill Curtis | 13. Tony Leon |
| 3. Susan C Goodwin | 14. Mariah McClain |
| 4. Julie Hewitt | 15. Wayne Bruce |
| 5. Violetta Diamond | 16. Michael Hersh |
| 6. David Kiasi | 17. Dennis Williams |
| 7. Wanda Gnahoui | 18. Ron Pinchback |
| 8. Jawara Hunter | 19. Junette Pinkney |
| 9. Michele Tingling-Clemmons | 20. Thomas Chase non-voting |
| 10. Kamau Harris | 21. Ellen Carter non-voting |
| 11. Michael Byfield | |

Excused Absence: Robert Gordon, Arthur Hyland, Minerva Sanders and Ambrose Lane

Unexcused Absence: Anita Irene Adams

3. Resignation: No resignations

4. Approval of the Agenda and August 13, 2025 minutes

Agenda: Moving up Bylaw to unfinished business

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

Katea Stitt, Program Director:

She was unable to attend the meeting.

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

Sataria Joyner, Membership Coordinator:

Pledge Drive

The August drive began on August 3 and ended on the 15th. The goal was \$175,000; however, we exceeded the goal days ahead of time. At the end of the drive, we raised \$195,750. The final amount was \$205,000.

Next Pledge Drives

October 12-25, 2025

December 14-20, 2025

February 8-21, 2026

May 3-16, 2026

August 2-15, 2026

October 11-24, 2026

December 13-19, 2026

Additional Fundraising

An upcoming fundraising day is on, September 23, 2025, entitled "Genius Plus Soul Equals Ray and John". It will which will focus on Ray Charles and John Coltrane. The goal is \$12000.00.

On Saturday, September 13, at 8am until 1pm the WPFW 5K Walk/Run For Total Fitness will occur. There is a \$40 Registration Fee with proceeds benefiting the station. The event will be held at the Bladensburg Waterfront Park 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, Md.

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

Miyuki Williams, Interim General Manager:

Next Tuesday and Wednesday the ED and other personnel will be in Washington, DC for a meet and greet.

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

Thomas Chase, Chair:

Funding Needed

He presented his report on the screen. He said we need an extra \$15,000.

Proposed Budget

He presented the proposed budget. It was accepted by the ED and the National Finance committee.

9. Community Outreach Committee Report

Mariah McClain reported:

A way to donate to the 5k Run/Walk was established. The newsletter has been completed. The Town Hall will occur in October.

10. Community Comment

Hikim

They need help with picking up items and at the 5k Run/Walk on Saturday. He asked, "Is there a way to donate to the 5K Run/Walk at the event?" A manner to donate was established.

Starr

She was concerned about a hiring issue.

11. Program Committee Report

Michael Hersh reported:

They discussed the new bylaws. In addition, they reviewed the PNB request to present more educational programming. The committee felt that WPFW has educational music and public affairs programming.

12. PNB Director's Reports

Julie Hewitt reported:

In early September, they met concerning committee reports.

Membership Fees

The National Finance Committee discussed whether membership fees should be increased.

Governance Committee

The Governance committee will review the 2025 bylaws and provide an open session period to submit possible changes to the bylaws.

Dennis Williams reported:

Committee Meetings

The audit and coordinating committees haven't met.

ED's Report

The ED shared a report with the LSB members at each station.

Membership Fees

There is talk of raising the membership fees.

Governance Committee

Governance committee will set up a time to review the bylaws.

Motion presented by Michael Hersh

I move that the Directors representing the WPFW LSB should vote to keep the pacifica membership rates at \$25.

Vote: Yes 10 No 1 3 Abstentions

Tony Leon's amendment to the motion was withdrawn.

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

Dennis Williams, Chair:

We are saving significant amounts for a new building with our present location.

14. Unfinished Business

Nominations for Listener Delegate

Motion Submitted

I move to approve the appointment of Jawara Hunter to the WPFW LSB.

Vote: Unanimous

15. New Business

Amended Bylaws Part 2 – Composition & Powers

The chair presented and discussed the 2025 bylaws Article Seven: Section C. He asked the LSB members to submit to him or the secretary questions they have about the bylaws.

16. Action Items/Summary

- We need to compile a series of questions for the ED to better understand the 2025 Bylaws.
- Feedback is needed from the PNB about the WPFW Bill of Rights.
- Procedures are needed on how to make donations for the 5K Run /Walk.

17. Adjourn: Kamau Harris, Chair, Adjourned the Regular Meeting at 10:19 pm

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Ellen Williams Carter

Attachment A
UPDATED PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2025

In addition to regular PD duties, the projects listed below reflect highlights of the work:

PLEDGE DRIVE

We have begun planning for the Fall pledge drive by contemplating themes, and special programming.

TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF GENOCIDE IN PALESTINE

We have begun planning special programming for the 2-year anniversary of the beginning of this iteration of the Nakba since October 7, 2023. Exact date of special details, TBD.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Continuing to work with our social media consultant to amplify WPFW's on-air programming; raise awareness about listener-supported media and why that's critical; highlight our Programmers and Staff; provide emancipatory education on the issues and music covered/presented by WPFW; cultivate new social media followers, new listeners, and new donors. Our IG account has grown exponentially and continues to increase. Many in our DMs comment on donating to the station. Spent a day in-person with our consultant creating content, and showing him how WPFW's studio worked, how programs are broadcast, etc. We also scheduled a workshop for Programmers and facilitated a meeting between Kwadjo and the rest of the paid staff, including the News team – Sue Goodwin and Noah Portner – to discuss how to utilize social media to amplify the newsletter's offerings and extend its reach.

5K ON-AIR SUPPORT

Worked with Martha Peterson to edit PSA copy to ensure message was Pacifica guideline compliant; also worked with Dr. Nick to produce PSAs and place in rotation. Suggested to Programmers that they book either Martha or some of the participating wellness facilitators on their programs to help create excitement about the event so listeners will register. Some responded with interviews of Martha and others.

PROGRAMMING UPDATES/CHANGES:

Jon Jeter, host of *Short Money*, broadcasting Thursdays, 2-3pm, has immediately resigned due to a teaching gig in ETHIOPIA!:-) We congratulate him. For the next month, we will re-broadcast some of Jon's best show, as we take time to identify the most suitable program to fill his slot; there's also the possibility of Jon providing pre-recorded programs, but only after he gets settled in Ethiopia.

In collaboration with Washington Parks and People, WPFW filmed its second installment of the WPFW Youtube program, *In the Studio*, hosted by Art of Noize gallery owner Adrian Ferguson and shot by Brigade member Brian Burns III. Egyptian artist Mona El-Bayoumi was the guest; it will be posted in October. The episode with Maurice James will remain the most recent through September <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOCxbp7TioQ>. The next *In the Studio* taping, will feature pianist Janelle Gill. We are working on an on-air and social media marketing strategy to drive listeners to our YouTube channel, and specifically this new program about art and artists in the DMV.

Project Censored, an excellently produced program syndicated throughout the Pacifica network and beyond, is officially airing on WPFW Tuesdays, 1-2pm. The program is an extension of the work Project Censored began in 1976 celebrating independent journalism while fighting media censorship, deconstructing propaganda, and supporting a truly free press. The program focuses on "The News That Didn't Make the News." Each week, the Project Censored team conducts in depth interviews with their guests and offer hard hitting commentary and analysis on the key political, social, and economic issues of the day with an emphasis on critical media literacy. The team is quite excited to be on WPFW and will be providing pitch shows for the pledge drives. They are also willing to assist WPFW in other ways – events, fundraising, etc.

UPCOMING SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

Tuesday, September 23 – *Genius Plus Soul Equals Ray and John*. Beginning at 5am until midnight, WPFW will present a fundraising birthday tribute like no other illuminating the lives and contributions of Ray Charles and John Coltrane, two icons of American music. Also worked with Bill Wax and Vinnie to design a limited-edition commemorative gift for the fundraising day. The schedule is as follows:

5-8am Brother Jamil, *Triumph Over Trouble*

8-9am Democracy Now!

9-11:30am Bill Wax, *Those That Influenced Brother Ray*

11:30am-1pm Scooter Magruder, *Lonely Avenue: Before the Music Was Called Soul and Ray Charles' Atlantic Years*

1-2pm Scooter Magruder/Bill Wax *Ray Goes Country and the ABC Paramount Years*

2-4pm Myrrh Cauthen, *I Can't Stop Loving You: Ray the Balladeer*

4-6pm Saïs Kamalidiin, *Ray Charles: Visionary Prophet of the Blues*

6-8pm Craig Williams, *Coltrane at Newport*

8-10pm Miles Willis, *The John Coltrane Quartet in Transition*

10pm-12am Katea Stitt, *Cosmic Love: John and Alice Coltrane*

Sunday, October 19 through Sunday, October 26 -Congo Week – WPFW is once again participating in Congo Week in a major way. We are co-presenting/producing two bookend live events, including one of the station's first Baltimore events, as well as an annual day of special programming!

Sunday, October 19, 2-4PM – Red Emma's Bookstore – 3128 Greenmount Avenue, Balt., MD

Sportswashing and the Military in Rwanda and the US: A Tale of Occupation and Genocide, presented by WPFW, Friends of the Congo, Africa World Now Project, and Project Censored. Free admission.

Wednesday, October 22, 5am – 12am – Second annual on-air day of emancipatory information and inspiration centering Congolese sovereignty and decolonization during which we explore all things Congo through discussion, poetry, speeches and music. Details to come!

Sunday, October 26, 5-8pm – Westminster Church – 400 I Street, NW

LoveSound 2025: An Evening of Soul Sisters in Support of Friends of the Congo and WPFW featuring performances by musicians and poets including Free BenJamin, Wayna, Anna Mwalagho, Ayanna Gregory, Navasha Daya, Laini Mataka, Akua Alrich, Sweet Honey In The Rock, and more. Tickets will again be \$50, including post-performance reception. All proceeds

benefit Friends of the Congo's DRC Women, Peace and Security Centre in Kinshasa, and WPFW! Last year we raised approx. \$4000+ for WPFW. By all accounts, the evening was a success, and the house was full.

PAST SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

Friday, August 29 – From the Ninth Ward to the Airwaves: Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of Katrina. Produced in partnership with the Hip Hop Caucus, this special programming recognizing the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, and was one of the most compelling, informative, and comprehensive specials presented on the anniversary. The program centered exclusively the voices of the most impacted, and those on the ground doing the work to rebuild still.

Monday, September 1 - WPFW presented *Labor Standing in Solidarity*, a day of programming centering the concept of collective action and mutual support among workers to achieve common goals and protect their interests - turning rights into reality! We will also offer analysis of labor's role in global inequity, imperialism, and genocide.

From 9am until 3pm, hosts Julianne Malveaux, Joni Eisenberg, Elise Bryant and Chris Garlock, and Mimi Rosenberg and Ken Nash broadcast the voices of workers and those organizing throughout the labor movement, including one of the original Rosie the Riveters, Susan King, on *Malveaux!*, Labor in resistance to the occupation of DC on *To Heal DC*, and those in the labor movement standing in solidarity with Palestine on *Building Bridges*. From 3 until 8pm, we offered a sonic reflection of labor in solidarity provided by our all-women DJ collective, *Meeting in the Ladies Room!* The programming displayed boldly that workers' rights are human rights on WPFW. I engineered 8am – 3pm on Labor Day, as well.

PSAS AND PROMOS

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

OTHER DUTIES

Facilitating our Quarterly Programmers' Meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 7pm.

Coordinating Subs

Curating additional and/or special programming
Board-Opening when necessary
Correspondence and phone calls with Listeners as necessary
Other duties as assigned or required.

Attachment B

LSB Membership Report September 2025

Sataria Joyner's Membership Report

OP2508 - August 3-16, 2025

The Goal: \$175,000

The Goal was exceeded. Website and phone pledges were \$195,734. In addition, PayPal and CashApp equal \$9287. That's a combined \$205,021.

With the help of a volunteer, 188 pledge reminders (70 from May were included) were mailed on August 19th.

If you and/or your friends, associates and loved ones wish to give in preparation for the ending of the fiscal year:

Donate Now by clicking: [WPFW Pledge Form](#)

CashApp: \$WPFWFM

Text to Donate: Send WPFWFM to the number 801801

An email blast was sent with a thank you to the audience for the summer drive was sent on August 19th. Another was sent on August 25th that focused on upcoming events and programming including the 5K. Click here to see it: [email : Webview : WPFW 89.3FM: Upcoming Programs & Events](#)

Upcoming Pledge Drives

We are looking for YOU to sign up to answer phones. Email Vinnie at volunteers@wpfw.org. All dates are subject to change.

September 23, 2025 is an on air fundraising day "Genius Plus Soul Equals Ray and John" which will focus on Ray Charles and John Coltrane. Goal is \$12000.00

October 12-25, 2025*

December 14-20, 2025

February 8-21, 2026

May 3-16, 2026

August 2-15, 2026

October 11-24, 2026

December 13-19, 2026

*Updated

WPFW 5K Walk/Run For Total Fitness!

Saturday, September 13, 8am until 1pm! There is a \$40 Registration Fee with proceeds benefiting your station for Jazz and Justice! The event will be held at the Bladensburg Waterfront Park 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, Md. Runners and walkers should arrive early for instructions. Call 202-888-5484 for information.

We currently have 14 people registered with at least 2 sponsors. I was unable to get the most current sponsorship count from Vinnie.

Vehicle Donations

They are an easy way to give to WPFW 89.3. Donate your used car, truck, motorcycle, boat, or recreational vehicle to WPFW and receive an income tax deduction! It's easy to donate your used vehicle, just click here [WPFW 89.3 FM Car Donation Program](#) or call 1-866-WPFW-CAR (1-866-973-9227) to start or get more information..

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. Charitable Bequests

Attachment C

IGM Report September 8, 2025

Operations & Engineering

- **Transmitter:** Post-rat repairs have been completed. Moe reports stability, though we are monitoring closely for any residual damage.
- **Alarm & Off-Air Systems:** Frenchy is working on upgrades to improve off-air detection and studio reliability.
- **Studio Equipment:** New high-caliber turntables are in place; strict guidelines have been reiterated regarding stylus use. Equipment covers are on order.

Programming & Content

- **Public Affairs:** Programmers are staying relevant and creative. Securing great guests
- **News:** National News development continues with Sue and Noah; coordination with Pacifica partners remains active.
- **Compliance Training:** Staff continue to adjust under the consent decree; Jon Almeleh will provide further clarification Sept 9.

Fundraising & Development

- **Coltrane/Charles Fund Day Drive.:** Sataria will present on September 23 fundraiser. Current goal targets for Fall remain ambitious—we must focus on programmer accountability and listener engagement.
- **2026 Drive Dates:** Tentative calendar will be circulated. The goal is to improve early planning and cross-program coordination.
- **Underwriting:** Tom Chase is advancing conversations with potential underwriters. Updates will be shared as agreements progress.
- **Bequests & Major Donors:** Arthur Hyland is formalizing outreach for bequeathments and Legacy Listener Circle cultivation.

Compliance & Governance

- **Consent Decree:** We remain under FCC oversight for 10 more months. Staff are reminded that ignorance or oversight will not be an acceptable defense if errors occur.
- **License Renewal:** WPFW's license is under review in 2026; vigilance in compliance is paramount.

Community Engagement & Events

- Working with LSB for 5 K walk/run
- Continued partnerships with community organizations are strengthening WPFW's visibility and relevance.

Closing Notes

Our success depends on collective responsibility. Each staff member and programmer must contribute to building a strong, financially stable, and compliant WPFW. We have kept meetings concise, but today's compliance review may extend to two hours. Your presence and engagement are essential.

Attachment D



WPFW FY25
Treasurers Report Sheet

Click on the above WPFW FY25

Attachment E

WPFW Relocation Committee

September 2025 report

The Relocation Committee met on Zoom on September 2. Eight of ten members attended along with honorary member Craig Williams.

By consensus, the committee agreed that purchasing a property does not seem feasible at this moment (if only because of the station's current financial situation). However, the committee also committed to prepare a report that includes recommendations and guidelines for purchasing a permanent property, which will be presented to the LSB for consideration and approval.

The full committee will meet again on October 1.

