

WPFW- LSB Regular Meeting Minutes October 8, 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 6:38pm with Chair, Kamau Harris

2. Logins/Greetings/Roll Call

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

Excused Absence: Tony Leon, Ambrose Lane and Wayne Bruce

3. Resignation: No resignations

4. Approval of the Agenda and September 10, 2025 minutes

Motion: Kamau Harris, Chair

I move that we make the following agenda change: move New Business to 9:05pm.

Vote: Unanimous

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

Katea Stitt, Program Director:

Programming

Katea responded to inquiries and directed individuals to her report (attachment A). The PD indicated that the station will provide cutaways for the “No Kings Protest.”

Dennis Williams congratulated her and the programmers for the program on October 7th, titled “What Breaks the Heart, joining millions around the world in marking 2 years of genocide in Gaza.”

Question

The chair of the Program committee, Minerva Sanders, requested a document containing questions to assist LSB members in evaluating programs.

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

Sataria Joyner, Membership Coordinator:

5k Run/Walk

Sataria acknowledged and thanked Martha Peterson for leading the 5k Run/Walk. All expenses were covered for the 5k Run/Walk.

Pledge Drive

The Pledge Drive begins on October 12, this Sunday, and will conclude on October 25, 2025. Volunteers are needed to assist with answering phones and sending pledge reminders on October 14, 21, and 27.

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

Miyuki Williams, Interim General Manager:

The Interim General Manager requested several staff members to give information and updates on the station equipment and volunteer activities.

Vinnie Jack, Volunteer Coordinator reported:

Vinnie is seeking volunteers to handle phone calls exclusively on weekends during the pledge drive. Interested individuals can reach out to Vinnie at volunteers@wpfw.org.

Moe Thomas, Station Engineer reported:

The station currently has an equipment trailer. The studio equipment is reported to be of good quality. A new PC with Windows 11 is needed. The transmitter has been operating at full power for ten days with 62 percent efficiency, and the power supplies were repaired and are functioning well. An additional processor has been received, and HD 1 is transmitting, resulting in a noticeable improvement in audio quality.

Interim General Manager reported:

The Pledge Drive is set to start on October 12 and will end on October 25, 2025. Volunteers are welcomed to assist with phone answering during the weekend.

Pledge Drive

The Pledge Drive is set to start on October 12 and will end on October 25, 2025. Volunteers are welcomed to assist with phone answering during the weekend programming.

Programming

The programming on October 7th was great and has drawn good listener feedback.

WPFW App

There is now a WPFW app available.

Studio Guest

Please provide a 24-hour notice if you plan to bring a guest to the studio.

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

Thomas Chase, Chair reported:

We are current on Central Service, Health Insurance, and other expenses (see attachment D).

9. Community Outreach Committee Report (Attachment E written report submitted by Violetta Diamond)

Mariah McClain reported:

Newsletter

Arthur Hyland provided an update on the newsletter for this month. He received appreciation/thanks for his newsletter.

5k Run/Walk

The meeting included a debriefing of the 5k Run/Walk event. Michael Byfield and Minerva expressed their gratitude to Martha for her efforts in the 5k Run/Walk fundraiser.

Town Hall

The Town Hall is scheduled for November.

Fundraising Projects

Several fundraising projects were discussed.

Bylaws

New bylaws and committees were also a topic of conversation.

10. Community Comment

Shayna Lonoaea said that she has been a loyal listener for two years. She is interested in the idea of a house party for fundraising.

Hikim wants to express gratitude to Moe for his help with the music for the 5K Run/Walk. He also appreciates Sataria's report on the 5K Run/Walk.

11. PNB Director's Reports

Julie Hewitt reported:

The PNB met October 2, 2025.

Pacifica Membership

- The Motion to raise the Pacifica Membership amount was not addressed.

Coverage of the "No Kings Day"

- They discussed getting protection for reporters' coverage of the "No Kings Day".

Minerva Sanders reported:

Audit Committee

The Audit committee is working on a charter about rules and responsibilities to help the ED with dealing with the day-to-day operations.

Dennis Williams reported:

Member Suspension

There was a vote to suspend a PNB Director. The suspension wasn't automatic.

Hiring GM

The application for a General Manager was opened. The Personnel committee will interview applicants for GM.

12. Program Committee Report

Minerva Sanders and Michael Hersh reported:

Minerva Sanders, requested a document containing questions to assist LSB members in evaluating programs. In addition, they discussed ways to assist the staff and programmers.

Motion

I move to continue a discussion about the Program Committee and the 2025 bylaw amendments.

Vote: 14 Yes 3 No

13. Relocation Committee Report

The committee didn't meet.

14. Unfinished Business

Kamau Harris, chair of the LSB, shared an internet link for members to submit questions regarding the new bylaws. He also distributed the new bylaws via Zoom and provided clarifications on the information contained within them.

15. New Business

David is requesting a vote of confidence on the new bylaws.

Motion

I move that the LSB hold a confidence vote on the recently enacted bylaws.

Vote: 13 Yes 3 Abstentions

16. Action Items/Summary

- The Town Hall is scheduled for November.
- The Bylaws will be addressed in the November meeting.
- LSB members will submit any questions they have regarding the new bylaws using the provided link on the internet.

17. Adjourn: Kamau Harris, Chair, Adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:59pm

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Ellen Williams Carter

Attachment A

UPDATED PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORT

OCTOBER 2025

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

PLEDGE DRIVE

Created and disseminated theme and info to Programmers; create buddy schedule; coach Programmers on pitch techniques as needed; and of course pitch.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Continuing to work with Kwadjo on IG marketing plan for new WPFW app, as well as amplifying special programming and Fall Pledge Drive.

AUDIOPORT:

Working with Programmers to have their shows included in Audioport to be shared with other Pacifica stations as well as affiliates. The PA programs up for consideration are as follows: Voices with Vision, Africa Now!, Code Pink, The Collision, and News Views; and the Music shows up for consideration are Kulcha Shak, Caribbeana, and Black Star Radio. The criteria used to determine which programs to begin with was based on uniqueness of content and

production value, as well as a request from the ED to have more content produced by Black/African/POC disseminated throughout the network.

UPCOMING SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

Tuesday, October 7, 5am-12am – *What Breaks the Heart, joining millions around the world in marking 2 years of genocide in Gaza.* Through interviews, stories, music and poetry, the day's programming will reflect the cultural and political concept of Palestinian Sumud, highlighting the enduring presence, resistance, and connection of the Palestinian people to their land. The schedule is as follows:

5A: Kates Stitt- To Gaza with Love

8A: Democracy Now!

9A: Voices with Vision - From the Rubble to Resistance: The Radical African Perspective on Palestine

10A: Crossroads - Justice Denied: Palestinian Prisoners and the Israeli Prison Industrial Complex

11A: Shay Wa NaNa - One Day Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This

12P: DJ Abby: Music for Gaza

1:P: Middle East Eye's The Big Picture - Exposing the Global Economy of Genocide

2P: Capitalism, Race and Democracy - Where are the Palestinian movement and the ongoing Gaza Genocide, two years after Al-Aqsa Flood?

3P: Palestinian Youth Movement DMV - Gaza Resists, Gaza Remains

4P: Palestinian Youth Movement National - Maersk Campaign and Witness to Hellfire

5P: Equal Rights and Justice - No More Genocide In My Name

6P: Full Spectrum - Unpacking Trumps Treacherous Deal

7P: Code Pink - Humanity not Bombs - The Global Sumud Flotillas

8P: Jordan Strudwick - Bars vs. Bombs: Hip-Hop and Palestinian Resistance

10P: Songs of Resistance

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

Justice, Inclusion and Dignity in a Free Congo. Our second annual day of emancipatory informational and inspirational programming centering Congolese sovereignty and decolonization during which we explore all things Congo presenting voices from the frontlines in the Democratic Republic of Congo creating a unique opportunity to hear from those involved in movement building and grassroots organizing in the DRC. Presentations include discussion, poetry, speeches, and music.

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, Congolese youth poets, 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:

Tuesday, September 23 – *Genius Plus Soul Equals Ray and John*. We began at 5am and ran through midnight, presenting 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 day raised over \$19,000. The schedule was 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*

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-Oping when necessary

Correspondence and phone calls with Listeners as necessary

Other duties as assigned or required.

Attachment B

LSB Membership Report October 2025

Submitted by Sataria Joyner

5K Walk/Run

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Walk

Pre-registered Participants 31 \$1500

Sponsors 3 \$300

Donations to the event \$1200

Square Payments: \$320.00

Net: \$3320

Does not include expenses

September 23, 2025 was an on air fundraising day "Genius Plus Soul Equals Ray and John" which will focus on Ray Charles and John Coltrane. Goal was \$12000.00 The day greatly surpassed the goal: \$19373

October 12-25, 2025 begins Soon.

We are looking for YOU to sign up to answer phones. Email Vinnie at volunteers@wpfw.org. All dates are subject to change. I'm looking for people to help send pledge reminders on October 14, 21 and 27.

Upcoming Dates

December 2, 2025 is Giving Tuesday

December 14-20, 2025

February 8-21, 2026

May 3-16, 2026

August 2-15, 2026

October 11-24, 2026

December 13-19, 2026

Attachment C

WPFW 89.3FM

Jazz & Justice Radio

Interim General Manager's
Report to the Local Station

Board October 2025

Finance & Fundraising

- Fall Drive:** We are currently in the process of launch Fall Fund Drive. Our goal is **\$255,000**. The momentum needs to accelerate; I continue to stress to programmers the importance of consistent pitching and listener engagement.

- Sustainers:** We are seeing modest growth in sustaining donations, but retention remains a concern.

- Major Donors/Planned Giving:** Work continues to identify potential major donors and develop a list of programmers who can be involved in pitching planned giving opportunities. Art Hyland's contributions have been invaluable

- Expenses:** We need more personal and the ability to update equipment.

Operations

- Facilities:**

- Our current leased space requires constant communication with building management regarding security, access, and compliance.

- Programmers continue to be reminded of house rules (e.g., no children on-site, no bypassing security). Violations have resulted in written warnings and, in some cases, suspension.

- Engineering:**

- We need to update equipment.
- Our transmitter remains vulnerable due to age; repairs and a long-term replacement plan remain priorities.

- Compliance:**

- Programmers are being reminded of **FCC underwriting rules**: no calls to action, no qualitative claims, and no mention of free admission.
 - We are preparing to launch Underwriting.
-

Programming

- Our mission-driven programming — “Jazz & Justice” — remains strong. Jazz, blues, reggae, and public affairs continue to draw dedicated listenership.
 - The addition of special programming around like October 7 has drawn good listener feedback.
-

Personnel

- Staff:**

- We remain understaffed. There is a pressing need for a **Development Director, Grants Writer, and Operations Manager**.
- Staff morale is steady but strained due to workload.

- Volunteers:**

- We continue to operate without a signed volunteer contract. This complicates management and accountability for the large number of volunteers we rely on. Pacifica promises to deliver soon.
-

Community Engagement

- Thanks to the LSB for 5K! Appreciation to all involved, thanks especially to Martha Peterson & Sabooh Hakim & Mrs. Gloria Turner for their dedication and follow through.

- Fall Drive, October 12-25, critical anchor drive. Please encourage people to donate.
- Our new **WPFW mobile app** has launched — an exciting step forward in expanding listenership and accessibility. Promotion and marketing are underway. Website next.

Governance & Network Matters

- Ongoing discussions within the PNB around compliance, CAB responsibilities, and ethics-related matters are being monitored closely. Some requests from non-official committees require clarification before action is taken.
 - I continue to advocate for transparency, kindness, and respect in all governance interactions.
-

Looking Ahead

- Stabilizing and strengthening our finances remains priority #1.
 - Facility relocation and long-term transmitter replacement are strategic necessities.
 - A stronger development infrastructure (major donor cultivation, underwriting, grants, planned giving) must be built to ensure WPFW's sustainability.
-

Closing

I remain grateful for the dedicated work of our staff, volunteers, programmers, and listeners. Despite ongoing challenges, WPFW continues to provide unique, independent media that amplifies voices for justice and sustains the cultural fabric of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Miyuki Williams

Interim General Manager

WPFW 89.3 FM

gm@wpfw.org

Attachment D

Thomas Chase, Treasurer Report



WPFW FY25
Treasurers Report At

Attachment E

Outreach Committee Report

October 7, 2025

Violetta Diamond, chair reported

Here is the report from the Outreach Committee:

The Outreach Committee met on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Ellen, Martha, Marsha, Sabooh, Michael B., Arthur, Mariah, Shana, and Violetta.

1. The Newsletter is ready pending one interview with a Staff member. The content of a potential interview with a Free D.C. person was discussed.
2. A debrief of the 5k run/walk took place. About 5 LSB members attended. There was a consensus that more involvement from LSB members was needed and desired. Frustration about the consistent inability to get the needed information from the station to determine the exact amount of money was voiced. The event is beneficial for the community irregardless of monies raised. Here is the the summary:

2025 5k Financial Summary

Total Amount From Sponsors: \$870, (used for 5k expenses)

5k Expenses: \$900, (Includes \$600 for Race Director and \$300 for Rental of Bladensburg Park facilities)

Total Amount From Sponsors for 5k T Shirts: \$800

T Shirt Expenses: \$800

Money collected at 5k, September 13th: \$650

Onsite Registration, \$320 (Credit Card), \$150 Checks;

T Shirts, \$180 (Cash)

*** STILL WAITING ON AMOUNT MADE FROM ONLINE REGISTRATION
BEFORE THE EVENT**

3. The Committee is planning to have a Town Hall meeting in November or December. Three venues are being investigated. A potential theme was discussed and the desire to appeal to a more diversified audience was presented. Results of the investigation are to be presented by October 13th.

4. Preparation for the future composition of the Outreach Committee must be accomplished. Specifically, the Committee is to be chaired by a listener delegate per the By-law change.

5. The Committee discussed partnering with a tennis and pickleball group to increase membership and delve deeper into that community. A proposal on this will be presented. The Committee discussed the framework and possibility of holding house parties and the idea will be discussed further.

Peace,
Violetta