

WPFW- LSB Regular Meeting Minutes August 19, 2026

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 6:34 pm with Chair, Kamau Harris
2. Logins/Greetings/Roll Call

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Anita Irene Adams | 11. Michael Hersh |
| 2. Verna Avery Brown | 12. Latrice Vincent |
| 3. Michael Byfield | 13. Jawara Hunter |
| 4. Michele Tingling-Clemmons | 14. Michelle Thomas |
| 5. Bill Curtis | 15. David Kiasi |
| 6. Junette Pinkney | 16. Ambrose Lane Jr. |
| 7. Wanda Gnahoui | 17. Mariah McClain |
| 8. Sue Goodwin | 18. Ron Pinchback |
| 9. Robert A. Gordon | 19. Thomas Chase |
| 10. Kamau Harris | 20. Ellen Carter |

Unexcused absence:

Excused absence: Arthur Hyland, Julie Hewitt, Violetta Diamond and Minerva F Sanders

3. Approval of the Agenda and July 15, 2026 minutes approved.

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

Katea Stitt, Program Director reported:

She was unable to attend the meeting. The GM reported for her from the written report.

5. Membership Coordinator Report (see Attachment A written Management report submitted by General Manager for the Staff)

Sataria Joyner, Membership Coordinator reported: (Attachment A written Management report submitted by General Manager)

She was unable to attend the meeting. The GM reported for her from the written report.

6. General Manager Report: (see Attachment A written Management report submitted by General Manager for the Staff)

Shayna Lonoaea, General Manager reported:

The Station Brand

A brand email reflecting the station's look and sound is being sent out. There is a programmer portal available.

Volunteers

Ink and paper are needed, thanks to Michelle Thomas for the supplies she provided. There are many upcoming events to plan for and volunteers are needed. David Whettstone has retired, and there are new volunteers. More community voices are desired for legal IDs.

Events

The 4th Sunday event will take place at a Café in Washington, D.C. Interns back-to-school party is scheduled for August 29th. A 5K run/walk event is set for September 12. The Jazz and Justice Festival will occur on September 13.

Pledge Drive

The second Week of the pledge drive performed better than the previous years. Over the last five years, new membership has increased. There are 211 new members, with donations having doubled.

Chief Engineer

The chief engineer is working on acquiring a backup generator to enhance sound quality.

7. News Report, News Director: (see Attachment A written Management report submitted by General Manager for the Staff)

Sue Goodwin, News Director reported:

She reported from her written report.

8. Chief Engineer report: (see Attachment A written Management report submitted by General Manager for the Staff)

Chief Engineer, Moe Thomas reported:

The Chief Engineer was unable to attend the meeting. The GM read the report.

9. Volunteer Coordinator Report (see Attachment A written Management report submitted by General Manager for the Staff)

Vinnie Jack, Volunteer Coordinator reported:

The GM reported for him from the written report.

10. Finance Committee Report (see Attachment B written report submitted by Thomas Chase)

Thomas Chase, Chair, reported:

Present Budget

The station is on budget for the month of July. The original budget goals have been achieved. There are 10 days remaining to finalize the budget, and there is a need for individuals to follow up on payments to reach a total of 200,000. Planning is underway for the budget for the upcoming year, which will be presented by Shayna in the next meeting. Shayna emphasized that bills are being paid and stated that the station is financially stable.

Audits

Audits are available for the years 2020 to 2021 and 2022 to 2025 will be available soon. (see https://www.pacifica.org/finance_reports.php)

- FY2025 990 Available Soon
- FY2024 990 Available Soon
- FY2023 990 Available Soon
- FY2022 990 Available Soon
- FY2021 990 FY2021 Audit
- FY2020 990 FY2020 Audit

11. Community Outreach Committee Report (see Attachment C written report submitted by Violetta Diamond)

Sabooh Hikim, reported:

Newsletter

The newsletter was scheduled for distribution last week.

5K Run/Walk

The 5K run/walk PSA will not include background music. The event will start at 8 AM and conclude at 3 PM. Busboys and Poets has offered support for the event.

U Street Jam

A lunch meeting will be scheduled with Ms. Turner regarding the U Street Jam.

12. Community Comment

Sabooh Hikim said:

Don Williams has passed away. Sabooh will update us regarding Don Williams' family's celebration of life plans.

Cerene said:

The 990 audits are progressing. It was reported that 40% of the members maybe off the election ballot. Voting is open until September 30th.

13. PNB Director's Reports

Ron Pinchback reported:

Read the Executive Director's (ED) August 6th report.

FCC Mandate

FCC has mandated that no on-air promotions occur under a court order. The probation period has lasted for three years, and the court order is no longer in effect.

Staff Policy

The ED report highlights certain staff policy issues. A new manual for volunteers has been developed, along with comprehensive plans outlining staff and volunteer responsibilities. Please review the ED's report.

Elections

Information regarding elections was discussed in executive session and cannot be disclosed. There is a possibility that a quorum may not be reached. Quorum remains a concern. Numerous issues related to the election have been identified. Quorum continues to present a challenge.

Dennis Williams reported:

Staff Policy

Policies have been documented in the report.

Elections

Voting will continue until the end of September.

14. Program Committee Report (see Attachment D written report submitted by Mike Hersh)

Mike Hersh, Chair reported:

Program Feedback Form

The feedback form will be implemented following the pledge drive, it will begin on August 16 and end October 10, 2026. WPFW Local Station Board Members (LSB) should reach out to David for information regarding the form. The remaining forms will be distributed, ensuring each member receives a form. Selection of programs is encouraged. All members of the LSB are urged to participate in this assignment. David is requesting members to submit the shows they will review.

15. Unfinished Business

Fundraiser Yard Sale

Mike Hersh's suggested a yard sale fundraiser. Volunteers are Michelle, Kamau, Byfield and Latrice.

16. New Business

Town Hall

The Tentative date is November 14, 2026.

September 2026 LSB Meeting

The LSB Meeting in September 2026 will be held in person, with the location yet to be determined.

17. Adjourn: Kamau Harris, Chair, Adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:33 pm

Minutes submitted by: Secretary, Ellen Williams Carter

Attachment A

Management Report

WPFW 89.3 FM · JAZZ AND JUSTICE RADIO

August 2026

Report to the Local Station Board

\$200,752

RAISED IN THE SUMMER DRIVE

115%

OF GOAL

1,531

GIFTS

62,900

REAL AUDIENCE

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

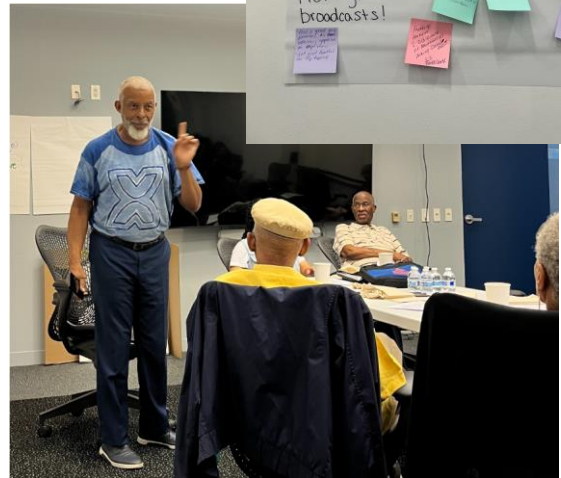
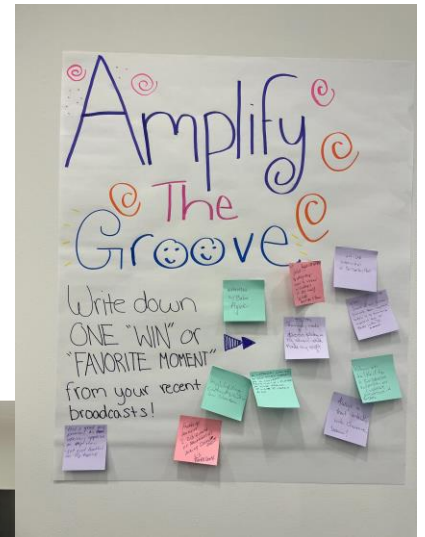
- **The Summer Drive closed at \$200,752** against a \$175,000 goal — clearing it by more than twenty-five thousand dollars.
- **Cuba Libre** — twenty-four hours of original programming on August 13, inside the drive, on a \$10,000 challenge grant.
- **First Nielsen ratings in roughly twenty years.** 62,900 real listeners; 5,146 of them give.
- **Allegiance will not be live for the October drive.** We are holding the migration until it can be done cleanly.
- **Pacifica voting opened August 15.** Three LSB seats drew no qualifying candidate; counsel says the 2027 boards must address them.
- **We need volunteers — and house party hosts.** See the Volunteers section.

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STATION SNAPSHOTS



GENERAL MANAGER

PREPARED BY SHAYNA LONOAEE, GENERAL MANAGER

Summer Pledge Drive

The August drive closed at \$200,752.55 against a \$175,000 goal — on-air pledges, the challenge grant, and what came in through CashApp and PayPal. We cleared it by more than twenty-five thousand dollars. Fourteen days. Every hour of it covered.

We ran this drive under a theme — Reimagining Black Liberation Through Our Collective Humanity, in honor of Black August — and we dedicated it to Denise Oliver-Velez. WPFW's first Program Director. Young Lord. Black Panther. A creative, scholarly, revolutionary woman whose vision for this station we are still working from.



A few things worth knowing about this drive:

- **Twelve of the fourteen days beat their own goal.** Not the drive total — each day, its own number.
- **The second week outraised the first,** \$100,842 to \$89,910. The drive got stronger as it went, which almost never happens.
- **Nearly half of all pledges came in through the website.** 43.9 percent, the highest share of any August on record — up from 36.6 percent last August and 18 percent in 2018. I am hopeful that is the website upgrades doing their work.

How this drive was run:

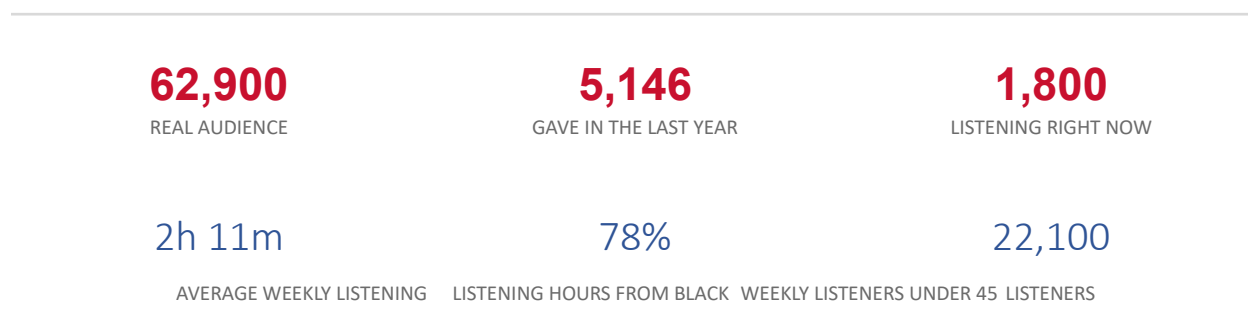
- **Goals rebuilt from actual performance.** Per-show goals came from each program's own pledge averages rather than prior drives.
- **Cuba Libre.** August 13 brought in a \$10,000 challenge grant secured through Busboys and Poets.
- **CashApp and Text-to-Give retired.** Text-to-Give cost more than it brought in. CashApp left us no way to steward the relationship or confirm a membership — money arrived with no reliable donor record attached.
- **Pitch Book and Pitch Partner program.** Both are being built out. An updated Pitch Book is in the studio and office, and pitch-partner schedules ran across both weeks of the

drive. The goal is a large, trained base of pitch partners in place for the October and December drives, so no programmer has to pitch alone unless they want to.

Nielsen Ratings Return

Our first Nielsen data arrived this month — the first ratings WPFW has had in roughly twenty years. I will walk the board through it at our August meeting.

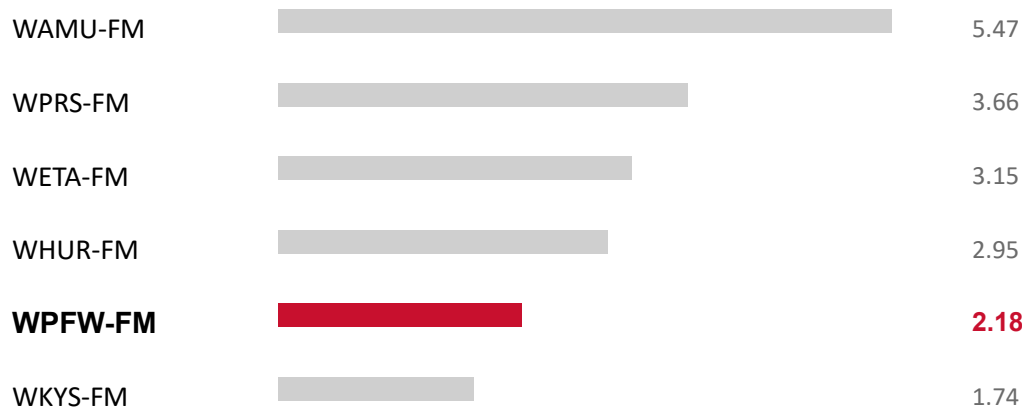
Nielsen counts 103,900 weekly listeners, but that includes anyone who tuned in for five minutes. The audience that really listens is 62,900. Of those, 5,146 gave last year. The other 57,754 give us nothing — winning over one in a hundred of them would mean 629 new donors.



Three findings worth the board's attention:

- **Our Black audience is our audience.** Black listeners stay with us about three hours a week. Everyone else stays about one. No other public radio station in Washington has a majority-Black audience. That is not a gap to close — it is the thing we are for.
- **Saturday carries us.** Saturday alone brings almost a third of all our listening, and 8 to 10 Saturday morning is the strongest stretch of our week.
- **We do not hold people as long as our neighbors do.** Time spent listening is where our growth is.

HOURS PER WEEK THE AVERAGE LISTENER STAYS



A caution on all of this: Nielsen measures the whole city through roughly 1,429 people carrying a device that detects what radio is playing nearby. One month is a snapshot, not a trend. Four or more months of surveys will give us a much clearer picture, and I would ask the board to treat these figures as a starting line rather than a verdict on any program.

I am working with our Treasurer to pull more granular data. Nielsen’s system makes disaggregation slow, so it will take time to get a clear picture that includes income, gender, education, and household size.

Donor System Transition

The move to Allegiance is underway. Data cleanup has started, and we are working out the timing of the import so it happens at the same time we switch over from OTIS rather than running two systems in parallel.

Allegiance will not be live in time for the October drive. Rather than force a migration mid-cycle and risk losing donor records or breaking the tally page during a drive week, we are holding the switch until we can do it cleanly.

- For programmers, Allegiance gives us a real tally page during drives — live goals, hourly totals, and donor shout-outs as they come in.
- For staff, it makes donor history, household matching, and interaction notes actually accessible.
- We can build unlimited mobile-friendly donation forms, and the system will automatically email donors whose cards are about to expire, which protects our monthly sustainer base.

Branding and Website

We remain in Phase 1: Brand Strategy with Cultivate Strategies. A programmer listening session is set for August 20.

Board members: please complete the stakeholder survey by Friday, August 21.

Your responses feed directly into the brand strategy. The survey is also open to programmers, volunteers, and staff — the LSB's input is an important piece we need.

- Now Playing player is live on the wpfwdc.org homepage.
- 5K registration page is up with peer-to-peer fundraising.
- Program pages and host bios are the next build priority.
- The archive and playlist interface is being scoped with our tech partners and Otis — the current one is neither mobile-friendly nor ADA compliant.

Off-Air Revenue and Planned Giving

Pledge drives carry most of our listener revenue; monthly sustainers carry much of the rest. Growing the off-air side is how we stop asking any single drive week to do this much work. Two campaigns are being scoped with the Treasurer, Membership, and Development:

- Monthly sustainer growth and win-back.
- The 50th anniversary campaign — gala, major and legacy giving, underwriting, foundation support, and archive events.

On planned giving, Qualified Charitable Distribution and stock-gift language has been drafted for the Ways to Give page.

Building the Infrastructure

A fair amount of August went into building things that did not exist before, so the next drive and the next volunteer do not start from scratch:

- **Pitch Partner program.** A Pitch Partner Book, a rollout plan, and a sign-up form are in place so programmers can request an experienced partner rather than hoping one is available. Katea's one-on-ones surfaced pitch partners — especially for overnight programs — as the most-requested form of support. We are recruiting toward a full roster for October and December.
- **Handbooks and manuals.** Updated handbooks are underway for programmers, for volunteers, for board operations, and for FCC-compliant on-air fundraising.

- **Programmer Portal.** The password-protected portal continues to fill out — fund drive hub, technical library, programmer calendar, and compliance corner — replacing scattered email threads as the place policies and resources live.
- **Volunteer Portal.** We have now built a companion portal for volunteers, giving them the same single place for the handbook, orientation materials, schedules, and opportunities. Both portals are password protected; board members will receive access details by email.
- **Slack.** Our workspace is growing week over week, giving programmers and staff a real-time place to reach each other.

Around the Station

Not everything this month was a spreadsheet.

- Programmers opened the July meeting by writing down a win from a recent broadcast and the one song that captures the soul and struggle of this community, then sticking them to the wall. The wall filled up.
- WPFW Sunday Sessions launch August 23 at Cafe Saint-Ex — our DJs, in a room, with QR codes.
- A back-to-school college party lands at Artivism on Saturday, August 29 — DJ YuYu, Kaliah, and DJ Cody V on the decks, 9:30 to 11:30pm. Venue, lineup, budget, and ticketing were built from scratch by our interns. It is aimed squarely at an audience we do not reach enough, and it is being run by the people that audience is made of.

Pacifica Elections

Voting opened August 15 and closes September 30 at 11:59pm PT. Nine announcement carts are airing across that window. Results are certified October 15.

Four candidates met the fifteen-member nomination threshold: Herbert Smith for Chair, Michelle

Thomas for Vice Chair, Jawara Hunter for Secretary, and Ron Pinchback for Staff and Volunteer Team Member Representative. Nomination turnout was 186 members of 5,762 — roughly three percent.

Vacancies. Three seats received no qualifying candidate: Outreach Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator, and a second Staff and Volunteer Team Member Representative. Members have been asking how these will be filled, so I raised it with the National Election Supervisor and with Susan Young.

Her August 6 update: counsel has advised that vacancies on the 2026 ballot must be addressed by the 2027 PNB and the 2027 WPFW LSB. The Governance Committee had previously adopted

a recommendation to the PNB on how to handle the vacancies, on the understanding that the PNB and LSB could act once the 2026 results were final. That motion is null and void, and the Governance Committee chair is informing the PNB.

For questions about eligibility, candidates, or ballots, members can visit elections.pacifica.org.

Upcoming Events

- **Donor Thank-You Phone Banks** — Tuesday, August 18 and Thursday, August 20 at the station, 6:30pm; Saturday, August 22 at 10am, both at the station and virtually — volunteers can join whichever works for them. Programmers who attend receive the names of listeners who pledged to their shows.
- **WPFW Sunday Sessions** — Sunday, August 23, 5–10pm at Cafe Saint-Ex, 1847 14th Street NW. Free. Every fourth Sunday of the month.
- **Back-to-School College Party** — Saturday, August 29, 9:30–11:30pm at Artivism. Produced by our interns, featuring DJ YuYu, Kaliah, and DJ Cody V. Tickets on Eventbrite.
- **DC Jazz Festival** — September 2 through 6 at District Wharf. WPFW will be tabling.
- **8th Annual WPFW 5K Run/Walk for Total Fitness** — Saturday, September 12, 8am to noon, Bladensburg Waterfront Park.
- **H Street Festival** — Saturday, September 19. We have reestablished our relationship with H Street Main Street and secured a space at one of the District’s largest and longest-running street festivals.
- **WPFW 4th 50th Year Benefit Concert** — Sunday, September 13, 4pm to 6pm at Palisades Hub. Two Bass Hit, featuring Herman Burney with Reginald Cyntje, and Kris Funn’s CornerStore.
- **Jazz and Justice Festival** — Saturday, September 26 at Malcolm X Park.
- **U Street Jam** — Saturday, November 14 at the Historic Masonic Ballroom.

Station Wishlist

Our station wishlist now lives on Amazon, so you can see exactly what we need and have it shipped straight to us:

WPFW Amazon Wishlist <https://a.co/03W3wmVj>

If you'd rather donate an item directly, or you have something that isn't on the list — vintage WPFW materials, records, equipment — reach out to gm@wpfw.org and we'll coordinate. Thank you!

Shoutouts

- **Katea Stitt, Alex Sourdis, and Sinit Tekleab.** Katea built Cuba Libre — twenty-four hours, midnight to midnight, without a single hour where the thread got dropped, and was on air from midnight herself. Producing a full day of original programming inside a drive week is not something most stations our size attempt. Inside that day, Alex and Sinit made their on-air debuts as co-hosts after only weeks at the station, mentored by Sue and Netfa. Alex and Zoie carried communications through the whole drive; Sinit has been producing the interns' August 29 party end to end.
 - **Every programmer who pitched.** Fourteen days is a long time to ask anyone to do a second job on top of the show they already produce. Our programmers learned goals rebuilt from scratch, absorbed a mid-drive correction that was not their fault, and kept asking anyway — through overnight hours, through weekends, through slots where the phones were quiet. Many pitched alone. Many exceeded goals they had never hit. Several kept going after making goal because the station still needed it. That is dedication and plain perseverance, and it is why there is a number on the front of this report.
 - **The Cuba Libre programmers.** Public affairs brought in Alice Walker, a Cuban diplomat, the filmmaker behind *Maestra*, and trade unionists just back from the island — people who do not answer a cold email from a community station. They came because of relationships built and kept over years. Music programmers made the case in sound, from Celia Cruz at midnight through the Afro-Cuban jazz lineage. And the Pacifica Radio Archives gave us Che Guevara speaking in New York in 1964, recorded then and not aired until 1974.
 - **Our phone volunteers.** Every weekend of the drive, volunteers answered phones and took pledges. That work saves this station thousands of dollars and keeps us beholden only to our listeners.
 - **Sataria Joyner.** Daily drive reports every morning, pledge troubleshooting, donor corrections, and tally-page fixes at eleven at night. The drive ran on that work.
 - **Robert Frazier, Kaliah Chapman, and Bryan Bernard.** On-air problems caught and resolved in the middle of the night more than once, and a control room that stayed steady through fourteen days of drive plus a twenty-four hour special. Robert also opened the building for phone volunteers at eight every drive weekend.
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PROGRAMMING

PREPARED BY KATEA STITT, PROGRAM DIRECTOR

In addition to ongoing work — responding to emails and calls from listeners, staff, and programmers; listening to air and working with our engineers; attending meetings with local and national staff — the following represents highlights of the PD work.

Grid Update

David Whettstone retired *We the People* due to personal issues. David produced an excellent program for over a decade, and will be missed. We are in discussions with Breakthrough News to explore carrying their program in the 11am Wednesday slot. In the meantime, we will air *From the Vault*, the weekly series produced by the Pacifica Radio Archives showcasing restored historical audio recordings of speeches, profiles, documentaries, and cultural programs.

Both of our new DC-centric shows — *New World Order*, produced and hosted by Freedom Futures Collective, Wednesdays at 6pm; and *All Eyes on DC*, produced and hosted by Washington Informer and freelance movement journalist Sam PK Collins, Wednesdays at 5pm — did well during their first pledge drive. Kudos! Collectively, the duo brings information about what is happening in the city at both the council and movement level, showcases the creativity and activism here, and links the struggles of DC to the global struggle for sovereignty and self-determination.

Making its debut Tuesday, August 25 at 7pm, and airing every fourth Tuesday after as part of the rotating *Liberation on Our Minds* lineup, is *We Keep Us Safe*, produced and hosted by Harriet's Wildest Dreams and Free DC activist Frankie Seabron alongside movement journalist and Deadspin contributor Chuck Modiano. In their words, the show strives to bridge the gap between generations, uplift hyperlocal issues, and center grassroots organizing — raising political consciousness through conversations rooted in action, not just analysis.

Clarence “the Bluesman” Turner also stepped away this month for personal reasons. Fred Carter, aka “Texas Fred,” a very popular host, rejoins WPFW in the Wednesday noon slot.

Special Programming

Cuba Libre — Thursday, August 13, midnight to midnight.

WPFW presented *Cuba Libre: Honoring the Cuban People and Commemorating the Centennial Birthday of El Comandante Fidel Castro*, unpacking the current situation on the ground as well as music and culture, medicine, literacy, education, renewable energy, gender equality, LGBTQ+ rights, elder care, the Afro-descendants initiative, and more. It also examined Cuba's contemporary and historical significance within a Pan-African and Caribbean context, and the

historical cultural relationship between Cuba and the United States. The programming was an outgrowth of our ongoing work with the Cuban Embassy, and we thank them for providing some incredible guests.

It was quite successful, and we secured a \$10,000 challenge grant, which almost doubled what was made that day. Our programmers did an extraordinary job and deserve huge accolades — Saïs, DJ Cody V, Craig W., Mimi, Joni, Julianne, DJ Abby, Sue, Katea, Netfa, Chuck, Renee, Ayize, Anthony, Kathleen Franks, and Rusty. Special thanks and congratulations to communications intern Alex and development intern Sinit for an excellent job making their debuts as show co-hosts, and to Sue and Netfa respectively for their mentorship of our young people. The programming is available on the archives.

Black August — Monday, August 31, time TBD.

Black August: Remembering Denise Oliver-Velez and Johanna Fernandez, Assata Shakur and the Women of the Black and Puerto Rican Power Movements will celebrate the lives and contributions of the women of the Black Panthers and the Young Lords.

Respect My Vote — date TBD.

WPFW is in conversation with other Pacifica stations to present a day of programming centering voting ahead of the November elections. Respect My Vote: Unpacking the Rollback of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and A People's Response would examine the implications of the rollback, give historical context to the Voting Rights Act itself, and bring to air the voices of those organizing nationally to stop redistricting and fighting for access to the polls. Produced by WPFW in partnership with the Hip-Hop Caucus, with contributions from the other Pacifica stations. Still in discussion.

Programmer One-on-One Meetings

These have been going quite well. We have been meeting first with all programmers generating less than \$200 per pledge hour to discuss their thoughts on increasing listenership and donor base, and how the Program Director can be of support. Key takeaways:

- Need for pitch partners, especially for overnight programs.
- Increase social media presence.
- Host events that highlight programmers in an effort to increase listenership and donor base.

These meetings will continue through September 4.

Special Projects: WPFW Sunday Sessions

Working with DJ Underdog to produce WPFW Sunday Sessions at Cafe Saint-Ex, the fourth Sunday of each month, 5–10pm. The focus is to highlight the number of active, working,

extraordinary DJs WPFW has on its air, and to build audience and donors for their WPFW programs among the community that often comes out to their non-WPFW events. While the event is free, we will make pitches and have QR codes there for folks to donate.

We begin Sunday, August 23, with DJ Underdog (Black Star Radio), DJ Housecat (Meeting in the Ladies Room), and Byron “B-Note” Brown and Derrick “D-Train” Coleman (Back 2 Paradise). All are welcome. Saint-Ex is located at 1847 14th Street NW.

Programming Committee

The LSB Programming Committee will listen to and submit feedback on programs from August 16 through October 10, 2026.

Special Project: Listener Legal ID Drops

We are building a library of station identification drops voiced by our own listeners. Instead of a single staff voice reading the legal ID, listeners across the region will say it — in their own voices, from their own neighborhoods — so that the most-repeated thing we broadcast sounds like the community that pays for it.

- Fourteen scripts have been drafted, and an intern workflow is in place for recording, editing, and logging.
- Consent language reuses the disclaimer already cleared for Voices of an American Reckoning 250.
- The project is pending three sign-offs before anything airs: FCC review to confirm the drops satisfy legal identification requirements, program approval, and production scheduling into the promo rotation.

Special Project: Voices of an American Reckoning 250

The Collective Remembrance Project continues to invite the community to submit one-minute audio drops answering what an American Reckoning means to them. These clips air on-air, will be archived in a web library, and are used across social media.

Want to be part of Voices of an American Reckoning 250?

Send your one-minute audio clip — or ask us for a quick how-to on recording — to americanreckoning250@wlfw.org with the subject line “American Reckoning 250.”

MEMBERSHIP

PREPARED BY SATARIA JOYNER, ADMINISTRATIVE AND MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Summer On-Air Pledge Drive — August 2 through 15

\$175,000

GOAL

\$200,752

RAISED

1,531

GIFTS

\$125

AVERAGE GIFT

Drive numbers include Cuba Libre programming on August 13, which brought in \$7,699.

8th Annual WPFW 5K Run/Walk for Total Fitness

Saturday, September 12, 8am to noon at Bladensburg Waterfront Park. Registration is \$35.

\$395

RAISED SO FAR

11

GENERAL REGISTRATIONS

1

PEER-TO-PEER

There are fitness and wellness classes in addition to a scenic 5K walk or run — Tai Chi, Yoga, Functional Strength Training, Line Dance, Double Dutch, and Meditation. There are games for adults including Tug of War and Dodge Ball, plus Chess, Checkers, and Backgammon. Children under 12 can do a 1K, play games, and receive participation certificates. There is something for everybody. As always, YOU make WPFW a success. Please tell a friend about the WPFW 5K and galvanize your constituency to support and celebrate it. Register at wpfwdc.org/5k-2026.

WPFW 4th 50th Year Benefit Concert: An Afternoon of Jazz & Justice

Sunday, September 13, 4pm to 6pm at Palisades Hub, 5200 Cathedral Ave NW.

Two Bass Hit features Washington's own Herman Burney jamming alongside trombonist Reginald Cyntje, while Baltimore's Kris Funn brings back his DC JazzPrix-winning group, the CornerStore.

- **General Admission:** \$35
- **Two Ticket Bundle:** \$50
- **Student ticket (with valid student ID):** \$20

We ask that you not only purchase tickets but strongly encourage you to spread the word and get your friends, family, and associates to also support this wonderful WPFW event. Attendees have raved about how much they enjoyed the previous three, and we expect nothing less of this one. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.

Upcoming On-Air Drive Dates

- October 11–24, 2026
- December 13–19, 2026 *Dates subject to change.*

NEWS

PREPARED BY SUE GOODWIN, NEWS DIRECTOR

Headlines

We continued to offer our listeners headlines on a Monday through Friday schedule. Among the many stories we covered recently were Israeli attacks in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, the impact on Haitians of losing Temporary Protected Status in the US, and the one-year anniversary of the National Guard in DC.

Pacifica National News

We continue to meet with the newly established Pacifica National News unit and continue WPFW's Monday through Friday daily contribution of headlines available to all Pacifica stations and affiliates at 5pm. We also talked about national collaboration on breaking news.

Special Programming

We worked with Program Director Katea Stitt to present a day of special programming on Cuba. We continue to develop and organize a framework for special programming on voting rights, and we continue to develop coverage plans for the midterm elections in November.

ENGINEERING

PREPARED BY MAURICE THOMAS, CHIEF ENGINEER

Transmission Systems

With consistent preventative maintenance and monitoring, the transmitter has been dependable since the last report. Preventive maintenance of the air conditioning system has contributed directly to that reliability. All air filters in the transmitter room were replaced, and

we can now monitor the air conditioning system directly and remotely, which gives us early warning of any problems.

The HD1 service for WPFW has been taken off air for the summer due to increased costs of operation.

Weekly on-site inspections continue alongside full-time remote monitoring. Current documentation of the entire technical plant is being assembled and shared with key Pacifica management.

Studio Operations

- Routine studio technical discrepancies have been addressed promptly, maintaining consistent operational readiness.
- CD playback equipment has been upgraded and is performing reliably. Compact discs with adhesive or “sticky” labels continue to cause mechanical jams and should not be used.
- Development of the Central Music Server library is ongoing. Transitioning from CD-based playback to digital file playback is necessary given the declining availability of replacement CD playback equipment.
- The two studio turntables continue to operate reliably and have been equipped with remote start capability.
- Discrepancy logbooks are reviewed daily by board operators, who resolve many issues immediately. Remaining technical concerns are addressed by engineering staff.
- Studio cleanliness and organization remain excellent and contribute positively to operational reliability.

Internet Connectivity

A recent major signal loss pointed to the critical need for updated security equipment and effective back-up systems for both transmission and internet service providers. The needed equipment has been ordered and should be in place within the week.

Overall Engineering Status

Broadcast transmission and studio technical systems are operating reliably. Preventative maintenance, infrastructure upgrades, and modernization efforts remain ongoing to ensure continued service quality and operational stability. One major upgrade remains: connection of a back-up generator at the transmitter.

VOLUNTEERS

PREPARED BY VINNIE JACK, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

By the Numbers

46	20	4
APPLICATIONS SINCE APRIL	VOLUNTEERS ON DRIVE PHONES	DRIVE PHONE DAYS STAFFED

Applications have come in steadily all summer: 6 in April, 14 in May, 17 in June, and 9 in July. May and June were our strongest months, following the launch of the monthly orientation process.

Across the four weekend days of the Summer Drive — August 2, 8, 9, and 15 — 20 volunteers staffed the phones in shifts running 8am to 6pm, with building access coordinated in advance with SiriusXM security. Several worked multiple days. That labor is the reason this station answers to listeners and not to advertisers.

Seven volunteers and programmers have already signed up for the donor thank-you phone banks on August 18, 20, and 22. We are still recruiting for all three sessions.

Where applicants say they want to serve, in order of demand: community outreach; archive and research; broadcast engineering; and fundraising. Most applicants select more than one. The concentration of interest in outreach and archive work is worth noting, because both are areas where we have real need and where volunteers can contribute immediately.

The Volunteer Pipeline

Every volunteer moves through the same path: application, monthly orientation, handbook, a one-on-one with me, placement on an active committee, phone pledges during drives, and ongoing check-ins. The point of the pipeline is that no one fills out a form and then never hears from us again.

Orientation runs the first Thursday of every month at WPFW and covers our history, mission, values, and community agreements. Each attendee then sits down with me one-on-one to talk through their interests. New and veteran volunteers are both welcome. Our next session is Tuesday, September 1 at 7pm.

We Need the Help

This station runs on volunteer labor, and right now we need more of it than we have. Every hour a volunteer gives is an hour we do not have to buy — and it is the reason WPFW answers to its listeners instead of to advertisers. If you have ever thought about getting involved, this is the month.

At the station:

- Answering phones and taking pledges during drives
 - Donor thank-you calls
 - Front desk, mailings, and office support
 - Premium packing and fulfillment
 - Event setup, greeting, and tear-down
- Virtually or from home:**
- Archive and research — helping preserve fifty years of DC's musical and political history
 - Social media, graphics, and content production
 - Newsletter and writing support
 - Data entry and donor record cleanup
 - Virtual thank-you and outreach calls
 - Committee service — Development, Outreach, Finance, or Programming

Host a House Party

We have no shortage of events this fall. What we need now are hosts. A house party is the simplest fundraiser there is — you open your home to a room of friends, we bring a programmer or two, people hear what this station actually does, and they leave as members.

It grows our listenership and our budget at the same time, in the one way that has always worked for community radio: one person vouching for us to people who trust them.

These cost the station nothing. The host provides the space and the food, and WPFW brings everything else — talking points, materials, a programmer guest, and the donation setup. Every dollar raised comes straight to the station.

If you would consider hosting, or know someone who would, let us know. This is one of the highest-value things a board member can do for the station this year.

August and September Volunteer Opportunities

- **Donor Thank-You Phone Banks** — August 18 and 20 at the station, August 22 both at the station and virtually. No asking for money on these calls; the purpose is gratitude.
- **DC Jazz Festival tabling** — September 5 and 6 at District Wharf.
- **WPFW 5K** — September 12 at Bladensburg Waterfront Park. Setup, registration, and course support.
- **H Street Festival tabling** — September 19.
- **4th Benefit Concert** — September 13 at Palisades Hub. Greeting attendees, setup, and tear-down.
- **50th Anniversary and Jazz and Justice Festival committees** — we continue to seek support in fundraising and sponsorships, auction coordination, community outreach, and event planning.
- **House party hosts** — ongoing. Open your home, we bring the programmers.

How to Sign Up

Email Vinnie at vjack@wpfw.org or call 202-588-0999 x1008

Attachment B

Finance Report

Click on the icon to see the Treasurer Report

Submitted by Thomas Chase



WPFW FY26
Treasurers Report A1

Attachment C

OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Meeting Date: August 4, 2026

Members Present:

- Martha Peterson (Vice-Chair)
 - Arthur Hyland
 - Sabooh Hikim
 - Marsha Edwards
 - Shayna Lonoaea
- Michele Tingling-Clemmons
 - Terry Goolsby
- Violetta Diamond (Chair)
- Mariah McClain (excused)

Meeting Overview:

The Committee held thorough discussions regarding the Newsletter, the upcoming 5K event, Sponsorship vs. PSA status rules, and communication protocols with station staff. A lack of communication had caused displeasure. Challenges regarding the Newsletter and the 5K were outlined and preferred resolutions were proposed. The value of the Outreach Committee to WPFW was confirmed. Shayna took notes for follow up items.

Key Takeaways & Action Items:

Shayna Lonoaea, GM:

- The newsletter is scheduled to go out this morning.
- Will bring a written communication process proposal to the next meeting.
- Will clarify whether music is allowed in sponsorship announcements before the next 5K announcement runs, and provide this update to Martha.
- Developing a plain-language toolkit and a new recording regarding sponsorship announcements versus PSAs to clarify the rules.

- Will correct the 5K event listing on wpfwfm.org (updating the time from 7:30–12 to 8–3, and changing the text from "kids" to "children").
- Will add the 5K call-in number (202-888-5484) to both the website and the flyer.
- Will establish a food budget for the 5K once Martha provides the necessary figures and invoices (a Costco order is currently under consideration).
- Will send an invitation for the 5K and the tug-of-war event to the programmer listserv, coordinating this effort with Katea.
- Will follow up on volunteer marshals for the 5K and safety planning event preparations.
- Scheduling a lunch meeting next week with Ms. Turner to discuss the U Street Jam planning for November.
- Email an announcement about the 5K to drive participation.

Outreach Committee:

- Kamau is reviewing the sponsorship and PSA email thread to share his analysis with the group. He and Shayna will compare notes directly to discuss creating a user-friendly, written format for the rules, which Shayna will pursue with Katea.
- Martha will send Michelle Thomas the Zoom link for the 5K planning meeting (scheduled for this Saturday from 10:00 to 10:40 AM) and will distribute the donation letters to Michelle and Kamau. Volunteer marshals will be added to the meeting agenda.
- Michelle is reaching out to Busboys and Poets on Route 1 regarding a potential food or cash sponsorship.
- Kamau is contacting Zeke's Coffee on Rhode Island Avenue regarding a coffee donation.
- Black Farmers was suggested as a potential food donor through Yarrow. Marsha noted that he should be approached directly and given the flexibility to decline, given his extensive contributions to the community.
- Violetta is exploring options to have a committee member appear on-air to promote the 5K, as instructors are restricted under sponsorship announcement rules.
- Violetta will contact programmers via Slack to invite them to participate in the Tug of War at the 5K.

WPFW Interns:

- The link to the social media posting that they created was placed in the chat. The committee was pleased with it. Some had already seen it.
- The Committee welcomes their assistance and participation.

Peace,

Violetta Diamond

Chair, Outreach Committee

Attachment D

The Programming Committee met on 8/05/26; Attendees were:

1. Mike Hersh
2. David Kiasi
3. Morris Kaplowicz
4. Martha Peterson
5. Verna Avery Brown
6. Michelle Thomas
7. Latrice Vincent
8. Kamau Harris
9. Michelle Tingling-Clemmons
10. Vanessa Dixon-Briggs
11. Marsha Edwards
12. Wanda Gnahoui

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mike Hersh at 7:06p.m.; the major agenda items were:

- I. Email address update
- II. Feedback Form Implementation
- II. Update on 5K event

-I. Morris asked that his email address (mokap@mindspring.com) be added to the courtesy copy list. Other email addresses offered were: Mikehersh2013@gmail.com; David.Kiasi@gmail.com; and VanDixonbriggs@gmail.com.

-II. Implementation of the Feedback Form will start **AFTER** the pledge drive (8/16) and end on 10/10/26. Members who select shows to review (limit of 2?) should advise David Kiasi of those selections by 8/15. The balance of the shows will then be assigned. Each member should be assigned the same total # of hours to review. The committee may need to solicit assistance from the LSB. Parameters outlined were:

- Reviewers should be mindful of show archive period (music-2 weeks; public affairs 2 months).

- Reviewers should indicate specific host reviewed when programs have more than 1 host.

- Reviewers should review each show twice.

-III. Marsha Edwards updated the committee on the 5K run/walk; the annual event designed to promote engagement with the greater community! It will take place on 9/12 at Bladensburg Waterfront Park starting at 8 a.m.; Registration is \$35. Info about the event is in the Newsletter and PSA's are being announced over the air. Planned activities are:

- The 5k run/walk!!

- Tug of War between programmers and listeners!!

- Taichi, Yoga, Meditation and Hand Dancing demonstrations/instruction!!

- Activities for attendees younger than 12!!

The meeting adjourned at 8:40.