

WJFF Board of Trustees (BoT) Meeting Minutes March 20, 2013

Adopted on April 17, 2013

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, 2013

Jeffersonville Village Hall
Jeffersonville, NY 12748

Present:

BoT members: Rose Brown (Vice-President), Deborah Chandler, Dawn Dorcas (President), Fern Lee Hagedorn (Secretary), Sonja Hedlund, Michael Propst (Treasurer), Arthur Steinhauer, Steve VanBenschoten

Program Committee members: Donna Colavito, Graham Rice, Chris Weigand

Staff: Winston Clark

Absent: Darlene Midlang

A. Call to Order – Dawn Dorcas – 6:30pm

B. Previous meeting minutes.

Motion to accept February 20, 2013 meeting minutes made by S. VanBenschoten, seconded by R. Brown

In favor: 6 Oppose: 1 Abstain: 1

C. Committee Reports

1. Program (rotating chair): Music Emporium moved to Tuesday nights on 3/12
2. Facilities (S. VanBenschoten): The temperature in the Green House is now set to 51 degrees to keep pipes from freezing.
3. Finance: (M. Propst): full report not available as WJFF bookkeeper had a family emergency. Generally, we are on budget with cash balance about the same as last month.
4. Fundraising & Community Relations (R. Brown & F.L.Hagedorn): On the schedule are Sullivan County farmers markets, PA markets at The Cooperage, WJFF major events, Dylanfest to begin at The Cooperage on 5/24, and others (see addendum). We are working on a new brochure and making display table more transportable. Thank you to volunteers who helped in 2012 and hope they will help in 2013.

D. Station Manager's Report (W. Clark)

We continue to produce Community Spotlights airing at 4:30pm on Fridays (5 minutes); Song of the Week is a new feature in which intern Eric Schwartz does this short feature airing on Wednesdays at 8:55pm. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the pre-Pledge Drive mailing. Eric is filling in for A.Weinreich while Adam is on vacation. Dylanfest is happening on 5/24 and being co-produced with The Cooperage. John Bachman is producing the event. The transition process between the two studios has been worked on and clarified and improved. We need volunteers to staff the phones for the upcoming Pledge Drive which begins on Thursday, 4/4.

E. Old Business – February Action Steps

1. WJFF membership sorted by zip code – S. VanBenschoten/W.Clark
S. Hedlund given a printout of the list of donors according to zip codes (NY and PA = 2,234 total donors).
2. Review of CPB requirements – done by BoT and staff

F. New Business

CAB ideas from other stations (S. Hedlund). Sonja will summarize documents she received from three public radio stations.

Motion to work on improving membership, attendance, and communication to and from the Community Advisory Board (CAB) made by S. Hedlund, seconded by A. Steinhauer.

In favor: All

Note: As a result of a discussion regarding S. Hedlund's use of the NFCB listserv for research into CAB ideas and her subsequent removal by the station manager from that listserv due to perceived misrepresentation of BoT opinion, S. Hedlund asked to be reinstated on the NFCB listserv.

G. Questions & Comments from the Public

Members of the public observed, asked questions, and made statements regarding a number of issues:

- 1) WJFF Community Advisory Board (CAB). Two past members of the CAB, one who served for over 10 years, addressed the board and the public regarding their tenure on the advisory body, expressing dissatisfaction that their membership was not renewed.
- 2) Dissatisfaction by several volunteers who have experienced changes in broadcast schedule and/or alleged mistreatment by station staff. One volunteer who addressed the meeting recounted the grievance process she underwent. Another voiced rude behavior on the part of station manager. Another complained of losing listenership due to new time slot for show.
- 3) Allegations of non-compliance of CPB requirements, in particular the open meeting requirements. A letter was received by the BoT from A. Larsen and M. Brown. M. Brown read the contents of the letter, which alleged that WJFF is in violation of open meeting requirements. BoT responded to the parties that WJFF does comply with CPB requirements, as stated in its letter of response to A. Larsen and M. Brown.
- 4) Putting the show "Making Waves" on hiatus due to on-air broadcast of expletives. As a locally-produced, long-running show, several voiced that expletives could be excused. BoT responded that WJFF works to be in compliance with the law, including the FCC laws on obscenities. It was also noted that better communication to the producers regarding the situation and hiatus was warranted. The Program Committee said this was not a sudden decision and that the PC has tried to have a dialogue for over a year with the producers regarding how to work together to improve the show.
- 5) Dissatisfaction that Program Committee conducts much of its business in closed session. Several show hosts, as well as members of the committee, appreciated that the critiquing process was in closed session. However, it was brought up that adding and shifting non-local shows into the program schedule could be done in open session.
- 6) Communication. It was suggested that communication be interactive, ie, when WJFF asks for help (eg, donations, pledge drive, fundraising events), it also gives something back (eg, regular newsletter, opportunity for comments and feedback).
- 7) Station Management. Several expressed dissatisfaction with station management and called for resignation of Station Manager.
- 8) WJFF BoT. Several expressed dissatisfaction with the board and called for major change.

H. Action Steps

1. Summary report of CAB ideas from three public radio stations (S. Hedlund)
2. Membership analysis update (S. Hedlund)

I. Motion to adjourn made by S. VanBenschoten, seconded by M. Propst.

In favor: All

Meeting adjourned at 9:09pm

Respectfully submitted,
Fern Lee Hagedorn
Secretary

Next meeting: April 17, 2013, 6:30pm, Jeffersonville Village Hall

Addendum 1: Meeting Dates. 2013. Wednesdays

4/17, 5/15, 6/19

Addendum 2:**2013 Possible Schedule of Community Events for WJFF, revised 19 Mar 2013**

Month	Event	Notes
January		1/23 – BoT
February		2/20 – BoT
March		3/20 – BoT
April	Pledge Drive begins 4/4	4/14 – BoT Retreat 4/17 – BoT
May	Callicoon Farmers Market 5/5 (Sun) Foodstock 5/11 (Sat) Dylanfest 5/24 (Fri-starts live at Cooperage)	5/15 – BoT
June	Trout Parade 6/8 Liberty Farmers Market 6/28 (Fri)	6/19 – BoT
July	Grahamsville Fair & BBQ 7/27 (11-5) ? Riverfest 7/28 Farmers Market – Cooperage (Wed pm)	
August	Pledge Drive, begins 8/1 Farmers Market – Cooperage (Wed pm) Callicoon Farmers Market 8/25 (Sun)	
September	Wonderful Things Auction 9/7 (Sat) Bethel Woods Harvest Festival/Corn Maze – tbd (Sun)	
October		
November	Music Sale 11/23 (Sat)	
December	Pledge Drive begins 12/2	