



**Radio Catskill Community Advisory Board Meeting
January 29, 2026 virtually via Zoom**

In Attendance: LJ Ruell, Steve Yaccino, Samantha Mango, Steve Gosch, Neal Hitch

- LJ called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., and a quorum was confirmed.
 - LJ went through CAB member list; 9 members total. LJ noted that Aaron Hinklin has moved, so we need to check if he is still an active member.
- LJ asked for a motion to approve the November 25, 2025 minutes. Neal said there is a typo in his name, but otherwise motion to approve, Steve Y. seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.
- LJ asked about meeting schedule, is it the last Thursday of the month? Or 3rd Thursday of the month? Neal confirmed it has always previously been the 3rd Thursday of every other month.
- LJ noted that Barb Demerest had shared the new WJFF Strategic Plan for CAB to review and asked for any feedback. Steve said that the gardening show idea previously mentioned may come to fruition, a pilot is being put together for the station. He said that the Strategic Plan noted that the station wants to do a better job of connecting with the community and influencers, so CAB can be the connector for this on other projects. Neal said sometimes when we use the word “community” we think of segments, but communities operate differently like an online “community” so CABs job isn’t just going into one segmented community, but these communities at large.
 - Steve said station has been doing a good job at communicating emergency weather info and school closings, they can become a hub for dissemination of information, so how can they enhance that? Steve emphasized WJFF as not just the disseminator of info, but how can CAB make sure that it is the place to go and look for the information? Can schools send out info in letters? Can CAB members campaign to get businesses to push out local info housed at WJFF? Steve asked how does CAB play a role in this? Samantha said CAB can simply share WJFF social media posts through our social group and various channels with local residents. Neal said its always about getting into places where the station is not already pushing out info; he suggested sending a letter out to school districts sharing how they can relay info to WJFF about school closures etc. LJ will email Tim to find out more info and Steve will email Barb to get more information from the board.
- LJ asked if we should, or would like to, come up with three CAB goals for the year.

- SY suggested a goal of helping to disseminate info (such as weather/important emergency service info/etc.) and sharing information with the community about how to submit event info to WJFF/community calendar. Samantha asked if website and calendar was updated yet? Steve and LJ said not yet, but still might be usable in the interim. Steve said the Strategic Plan stated they want to tap local community members for more programming, so how do we let the station know that we are here to help? LJ asked about volunteer opportunities, Steve said he is more interested in CAB duties, and not outreach volunteer opportunities such as manning a table. LJ said to proceed with our ideas, connecting with Barb/Tim and station staff. Neal said he thinks the CAB members are the appropriate point of contact to approach the station with ideas and recommendations, as a person in the community. Samantha suggested promoting Radio Chatskills, and that community members and organizations can be on the show to discuss their work, events, etc.
- Neal said we have some goals: 1) follow up on pushing out info through WJFF 2) have one in-person CAB meeting (as Barb noted last CAB meeting). Maybe it can be a community meet up where CAB will meet in-person and share info about the station (such as an info resource or how to use the community calendar). LJ asked for ideas for where/when we could meet and mentioned the Bethel Woods Horizon Happy Hour as an option (CAB met up there in 2024). LJ said it should be a free event, Neal also said it should be a place where the radio station is already advertising, whether it's a fair or an event. Samantha suggested Sullivan County Youth Book Festival in Monticello on May 30th.
- Neal said we should do a review of where people are in their 3-year terms. LJ has a spreadsheet he will look into (screen shared for review). Jill & Neal are up for renewal in February '26.
 - Samantha suggested to do the nominations now. LJ made motion to invite Neal Hitch and Jill Carletti both for their second term. Steve seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.
 - LJ needs to send an email to Tim, saying that CAB voted to invite/reinstate Jill Carletti and Neal Hitch, both for for second terms, so the WJFF board can add to their next meeting and approve the nominations. LJ will ask Barb about Samantha's term (second term was approved by WJFF board in May 2025?)
- LJ stated that the next WJFF CAB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2026.
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm following a motion by LJ, seconded by Steve, and unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted by,
Samantha Mango, Secretary