

**Friends of Yellowstone Public Radio  
Board Meeting  
KEMC Studios, Billings, MT 59101  
July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

Board Members in attendance: Amber Sundsted  
Paul McKean  
Ashley Warren  
Mary McNally  
Janice Cochrane  
JoAnn Eder  
Susan Foster  
Anita Pagliaro  
Chuck Hingle  
Scott Mitchell

Joined by phone: Barbara Sample

Staff in attendance: Kurt Wilson  
Jill Hirschi  
Jamie Granzella

Secretary: Kathleen Healy

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

**Approve Minutes**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from the board meeting held on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Upon motion and second, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED**, that the Board approves the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 meeting minutes as presented.

**Committee Reports**

**Nominating Committee**

Mr. McKean gave a report for the nominating committee. Mr. McKean is chair of the committee as the outgoing President. Mr. McKean noted that the committee is most active in Spring, when they are looking for new Board members. Mr. McKean reminded the Board of the term limits. The Friends Board has term limits of two terms of three years each, and board members must go off for at least one year. He stated that the nominating committee makes the recommendation to board for new board members and that they won't have any recommendations until Spring.

**Finance, Investment, and Audit Committee**

Mr. Goodrich sent a brief Finance Committee update since he was out of the county. Mr. Wilson gave a few highlights of how the station did last year and went over the financial statements. In summary, the station wanted to raise \$755,000 and they raised \$792,000, which was the most ever raised at the station. They came in a little bit below in Underwriting due to a hiring a new marketing person. On

the expense side benefits came in under budget. They hired assistant engineer and tower rents have been increasing without much the station can do. For the year the station spent \$44,000 less than intended.

### **Development Committee**

Ms. Hirschi gave an update on fundraising. Compared to previous year actual, the trend is upwards. Ms. Hirschi noted that it was a really good year and that they hope to hit a 5,000 member mark or higher. While at a conference in May she learned that some stations have 50%-70% member sustainers.

The Board discussed the Regional Journalism Collaboration (RJC), a program where each participating station hires a reporter and get to utilize stories from each. The managing editor is based in Boise. There are six reporters. A grant paid 50% (\$24,000 for Nate) this year, next year the station will pay 75% of salary next year, and the station will pay 100% next year. YPR has 15 months remaining, it will end September 2019. The comment was made from a board member that it has improved the news section- and they have found it much more upbeat. The Board discussed the difference between the regional content they were receiving and the need for a Bozeman reporter. If the stories go national, the station doesn't get anything since they are tagged as Mountain West News Bureau. Currently they have been using them to fill content. The Board discussed that there was a misunderstanding and that they thought they would be getting a Bozeman reporter and Mr. Larson thought that many of the GM's would not be continuing to participate in the RJC program.

The Board discussed the use of Board directed funds to hire an additional reporter.

### **Programming Changes**

Mr. Wilson gave an update on Programing. The budget was \$337,000 spent 290k. Mr. Wilson updated the board that they had cut Live from Here, after Prairie Home changed, it's not same show. Spent \$5,000 to get Live from Here, BBC World, any program on webstream or on the app.

Mr. Wilson noted that Brad Edwards would no longer be used for jazz and that now they will have 24 hr jazz station in web and app for free, and they are getting 180 hours of jazz for 80% less. Joe Sample does know about changes and is on-board with the change.

### **Staffing**

Mr. Wilson shared that he would like to pay his staff but has not been able to increase wages. The new chancellor knows he would like to increase since they have had the same salaries while making less money since their out of pocket costs of benefits have increased.  
more.

### **Budget**

The Board reviewed the budget.

Upon motion and second, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED**, that the budget was approved as presented.

### **Annual Gift from Endowment Fund**

Upon motion and second, it was unanimously,

**RESOLVED**, up to \$99,839 was approved based on needs to spend from the Saving's Account and up to \$60,000 was approved to spend from Board Directed fund.

### **Other Business**

- The Station Planning committee will be an Ad Hoc meeting
- Ms. Hirschi gave a report on plans on next year. The transmitter project has been topped off and the antenna is going up now.
- The Fall Pledge Drive will be Sept 22-28<sup>th</sup>, Sat through Friday.
- The Board members were encouraged to join a committee and be more involved.

### **Year in Review**

Mr. Wilson gave a rundown of what had been accomplished this year including: smart phone app, 1850 downloads (half of members), reorganized news, with Steve Chadley, Nate, renovated space, more office space, rented house, capital campaign, programming changes, webstream hits, updated website made it cleaner, want to enhance it, hire digital realm, community involvement, gained members-symphony, library teamed up, special events, live strings 'n' things, Development Team – the pledge drive was a success- hit goal before last day, surplus budget, added assistant engineer, interns and student workers, open house and music sale, changes so the were compliant with FCC.

### **Tippet Rise**

The Board discussed potential collaboration with Tippet Rise, however the issues with programming and having it used on Performance Today means that they don't need the station.

### **Website**

The Board discussed that the Friends section out-of-date on the website and the roster is old, from last year. They discussed that this needs to be updated with the new roster, bylaws, and minutes. Ken and Wesley are in charge of keeping these up-to-date.

The Board determined there was no need for Executive Session.

The comment was made that they need to be more social as a board and get to know people. For the next meeting in Oct. board members should plan on a social function that will be an extra hour.

### **Board Meeting Dates**

The next Board Meetings will be:

October 30, 2018

January 29, 2019

April 30, 2019

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.