

Meeting was called to order at noon in the RRR Performance Studio by Vice President, Mary Decker

Attending were Brian Murphy, Hardy Foreman, Jim Conerly, Joe Kane, Tim Chauvin, Margaret Elrod, Ronald Herzog, Sally Langston, Anne Gremillion, Mary Decker, Jana De Benedetti, Leonard Wilson and guest Ona Wilson. Staff members attending were Ranae Moran, Kermit Poling, Henry Edwards and Kate Archer Kent.

Kermit reported on Gail Beil's continued health improvements

A motion was made by Ronald Herzog, and seconded by Ted to approve the Minutes. Motion approved unanimously

Staff Reports:

Kermit: Good news. We had a surplus of \$25,532. Less money from CPB. We will probably lose about the same amount. We have dropped PRI and satellite channel, which is half of last year. Underwriting was almost \$200,000 – a record breaking year. The amount of money that came in membership amounts was not as great as previous amounts, but the number of member/contributors has increased.

Kermit explained the increase in members on charts.

The first six months this year we are doing better than last 6 months.

Alexandria is hosting Fred Child October 3. Patron meet and greet at 6:00 PM Concert at 7:30. Giovanni DeChiaro, (get other names) 3 performances. Kermit will do an interview with Fred Child, and Fred will do interviews with the performers. All board members are encouraged to attend. It can prove to be a significant fund raiser, if we can sell out the house.

Bill Beckett: Iran Nuclear Deal airing Sunday, Sept 20 at 8:00. Other special programs were handed out at the meeting.

Membership: We are trying to get members to contribute more  
Looking into new premiums, including: pedometer, HD radios, Poverty Point book. Musical guests will be Chris McCaa, Two Tone Blues, Twang Darkly.

Kermit will have puppies available from the litter of the dog he rescued.

Fall Membership Drive will begin October 5 and is scheduled to run through the 16. Coordinate with Henry for slots.

Website changes: The website pledge page is now visibly more interesting, however, not as flexible – as key information such as new or renewing membership status and the State of residence is missing. Hopefully the computer programmers will resolve the issue. Website also allows options for multiple donations, and rounds off amounts. There are improvements in the persistent player, which now allows it to play on any device more quickly. All three streams are now online (with some glitches).

Kate: Intern is helping. New web format is an overwhelming amount of work to turn stories into visual web stories.

Nacogdoches is launching on a project to work with students in the communications program. Hopefully it will start in January. Spring semester starts the end of January.

Fredonia Hotel has reopened.

Young Artist winners contest will be part of the drive (on Oct 11 at 3:00). The amazing array of talent Includes a 12 year old on pipe organ (Alise Jones).

Billboards for Red River Radio: The look great! There is one on I-49 before Pierremont, I-20 near downtown, Bert Kouns near auto mall. We will be running digital billboards before the fund drive. The Billboard campaign is courtesy of (Joe) Lamar, with our only cost is paying for vinyl to be printed. Gremillion and Pou volunteered their services as well for the design of this campaign. There was a suggestion that somewhere it should perhaps show that it does not cost us to run these "advertisements." There was a discussion about non-profit use of advertising.

There are a number of volunteers: helping for mail, and secretarial work, including: Bob Lachman, Monty Levitt, Susan Fletcher, and Joe Cooper. We are now soliciting for meals from restaurants for volunteers.

The feedback about using BBC programs has been mostly positive. There have been comments that listeners miss the shows that were replaced, and have mentioned missing the 4:00 am tech show.

New Business: Juli Jameson (owns Sweet Sabine's in Marshall) will participate in the drive, and will bring food. There was encouragement to try to include Longview and Lufkin board members as part of the on-air presence for the drive.

There is an effort to try to make RRR more relevant to East Texas. Suggestions included: encourage them to go to website, make them aware of our programs, so that they would want us in a bigger way. Board members from the area are planning to have lunch with people who could be influential in Tyler. Kate also is reporting about East Texas events. The suggestion was made to try to approach a Board member from LeTourneau University. It was suggested that Gary Border's wife, Julie, a long time university professor should be approached. There was a discussion about how large the board is, and being careful to choose people from specific locations where we want to be a presence.

There was discussion about Brookshires brothers being separate entities.

There was a motion by Leonard Wilson and seconded by Tim Chauvin to approve Juli Jameson as a new Board member. Motion was unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn was made by Leonard Wilson, and seconded by Sally Langston: The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Rabbi Dr. Jana L. De Benedetti, Board Secretary