

MINUTES OF THE WLRN

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB) MEETING

March 8, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jo Asmundsson called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM.

CAB Members, WLRN Staff and guests in attendance: Susan Angulo, Jo Asmundsson, Marcus Christian, Wes Dallas, George Early, Betsy H. Kaplan, Darrell Payne, Michelle Simmons, Chuck Tatelbaum, Jeanne Westphal, Cynthia Weems, David Berley, John Labonia, Peter Maerz, Christina Scott, Bernadette Siy, and Adrienne Kennedy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the January 20, 2012, meeting. Members present accepted and approved the minutes as published.

WLRN SPEAKERS SERIES: Bernadette Siy presented a PowerPoint report on the WLRN Speakers Series. Her presentation included photographs of the community outreach events at two Boy Scout meetings, St. Thomas University, Nova University and the Coconut Grove Sailing Club. CAB members Jo Asmundsson, Susan Angulo, and Darrell Payne shared their experience of being part of the presentations.

NEW WLRN-TV ORIGINAL DOCUMENTARY: Mia Laurenzo gave the CAB members a preview of her new documentary *Child Sexual Abuse: Out of Darkness Into Light*. The members will be invited to the premiere screening event in April, child sexual abuse awareness month. Ms. Laurenzo spoke about the future outreach plans for the project including presentations to schools and other community groups.

SESSION 2012: RADIO TOWN HALL: Peter Maerz reported that 91.3 hosted a special 2-hour, town hall program addressing 2012 legislative issues. There were 35 guests as part of the radio studio audience and the program incorporated the social media and the Public Insight Network resources. Peter mentioned that the station will continue to explore different program formats to expand audience reach and interest. Peter also shared an audio clip from the program.

NEW CHILDREN'S ANIMATED SERIES: Adrienne Kennedy introduced WLRN's new children's animated series called *Enertips*. The 13-part series has a "green" theme with a focus on energy conservation. Adrienne introduced creator/producer/director Antoni D'Ocon and his associate Oscar Baisman. She also reported that the series premieres locally in April to coincide with Earth Day and will be the featured film for RTL's Cinema Day at WLRN with 130 students from M-DCPS' Primary Learning Center. The series will also be distributed nationally to other PBS stations through NETA. A short clip of *Enertips* was screened at the meeting.

AMERICAN GRADUATE UPDATE: Bernadette Siy gave the CAB an update on the American Graduate dropout prevention awareness initiative and complimented her report with a PowerPoint presentation showcasing the January 10th American Graduate kick-off at WLRN; the school event launches at Mandarin Lakes K-8, Nautilus, North Dade and Hialeah Gardens Middle Schools; and the School Board proclamation presented by Dr. Feldman.

GM REPORT: John Labonia reported that NPR president Gary Nell (former President/CEO of the Children's Television Workshop, producer of *Sesame Street*) recently visited WLRN and shared thoughts on how both organizations could collaborate on news and digital media

initiatives. They also discussed the possibility of reinstating WLRN as a training location for NPR's up and coming reporters and the establishment of a journalism internship program for high school students.

In anticipation of this proposed project, WLRN is constructing a new radio newsroom (on the 2nd floor) with an additional studio and 15 workstations. The Miami Herald will be moving out of their current building downtown to offices in Doral and the WLRN/MH News team will have space at both locations (Doral and WLRN). There are also plans to have a third news location in Palm Beach.

John gave an update on the Treblinka documentary stating that Michael Berenbaum has delivered a draft script and the documentary should begin production around May or June with shoots planned for Israel, Poland and Germany.

WLRN sponsored a symposium on Holocaust education for 75 teachers with Michael Berenbaum as the guest speaker. At the symposium, Mr. Labonia met Terezin survivor Liesl Bogart and invited her to come to WLRN to record her story. John played a 5-minute clip of the interview for the CAB.

The next CAB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 10th. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.