Meeting Minutes - WVTF Friends Council

Friends Council – the link that makes WVTF/RADIO IQ valuable resources to its community.

**Call to order**

A meeting of the WVTF/RADIO IQ Friends Council was held at the station’s Broadcast Center in Roanoke on 3/30/2017 from 12 Noon to 1:10 PM.

Member Attendees: Anna Lawson, Chair. Beth Waller, Dana Martin, Isabel Thornton, Margaret Grayson, and Bill & Brenda Gray

Member Call-ins: Wes Spruill, Genia Dowdy, Joe Bowser, and Kakie Brooks


Ex Officio in attendance: Glenn Gleixner, Cynthia Gray.

Minutes: Amber Gillie, WVTF-RADIO IQ.

Member of the public: Sydney Nordt

**Reports**

1. Welcome by Anna Lawson.
   a. Introductions

2. Update on Spring Fund Drive from Glenn.
   a. Dollars raised
      i. Goal: minimum of $450,000. Raised: $540,000
   b. Number of donors, new and returning very strong.
      i. 977 new donors.

3. CPB Status of Federal Funding Update
   a. Quick Explanation of how we obtain funding.
      i. Corporate of Public Broadcasting receives $445 M annually. 25% to public radio and 75% to public TV, approximate.
      ii. Future funded (2 years in advance)
      iii. Have not received 2019 allocation yet.
   b. How to take action against possible funding cuts- visit Protect my Public Media web site.
      i. People should sign petition at [http://protectmymedia.org/](http://protectmymedia.org/)
         1. Very strong and effective
      ii. A letter is going around to all legislators to preserve public media.
      iii. Friends Council encouraged to meet with representatives by visiting local offices.

4. Digital Audio/Traffic System Update
   i. Explanation of how digital audio system works.
   ii. Cost was over $125,000
      1. Paid for by donors and selling licenses and equipment no longer needed.
iii. Cynthia thanks Friends Council for helping raise donations during the Cokie Roberts event.

5. Programming Changes effective July 10, 2017
   a. RADIO IQ is revamping schedule.
   b. Biggest change affects Southside area.
   c. RADIO IQ for Roanoke, Lynchburg, and NRV moves to 89.1 FM
      WVTF for Roanoke, Lynchburg, and NRV moves to 89.5 and 95.5 FM
   d. Danville and Martinsville will only receive RADIO IQ news and information.

6. Richmond Appreciation Event
   a. Donor names from Richmond, Midlothian, and Henrico area will be used for invites.
   b. Will have local journalists to meet and possibly an NPR reporter stationed in VA.
   c. Discussed creating a working group to brainstorm and organize
   d. Timeframe is Fall 2017

7. Comments from visitors
   a. Willing to help. Wants to reach out to people because we need to increase our listeners.

8. Questions/suggestions
   a. Suggestion to visit representatives where they are because it tends to be more effective if you can find out their agenda.
   b. Suggested to combine next Friends Council meeting with the Richmond Appreciation Event.
   c. Recap: CPB funding very important to preserve.

Adjournment

Next Meeting: September, 2017- location possibly Richmond – place to be determined.