

MINUTES OF THE KGNU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, October 11, 2011
700 Kalamath, Denver, CO

Board Members Present:

Barry Gilbert, Chair
Judy Trompeter, Vice Chair
Basit Mustafa, Treasurer
Chris O'Riley, Secretary
Sam Fuqua, Ex Officio
Meredith Carson
Steve Strenge
Lu Contreras

Board Members Absent:

Ken Fricklas
David Wilson

Guests:

Joy Barrett
Eleizabeth Dobas
Robin Van Norman
Pat Naylis
John Jackson

6:10pm - Meeting called to order by Barry Gilbert
September 2011 minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

STATION MANAGERS REPORT: Sam Fuqua

Membership Drive:

The fall drive begins this Wednesday, Oct. 12th, and runs through Saturday, Oct. 22nd.

As of Monday Oct. 10th we are down in pre-drive renewals as compared to last year. This reduction appears to be part of a nationwide trend.

We are relatively even with challenge grants compared to last year. Based on tentative commitments and follow-up calls we expect to meet or exceed that amount.

Grants Update:

We have received our third year of funding from the Denver Foundation. We have received \$17,500 for each of the last 3 years. They fund on a three-year cycle, and we will have to take a year off before applying again.

KGNU and donnie betts submitted a grant to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to fund "Destination Freedom: Black Radio Days" a series of historical African-American radio dramas produced by donnie and broadcast live on KGNU. We expect to hear from the NEA in December.

We are in our third and final year of Colorado Health Foundation funding for our "Eat Your Radio" project. We are looking for funding to continue the project in Denver public schools and expand it to other area school districts.

E-Newsletter

We will be launching a quarterly email newsletter for our listener members next month. Our goal is to present a concise and clean overview of things happening at the station. We will eventually turn it into a monthly email newsletter.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT: Basit Mustafa

Basit presented a preview of the FY 2011 Budget Report.

Overall 2011 closed out fairly well. The budget was balanced with income coming in at \$880,000, or 116% of plan. Expenses were at \$867,000, or 114% of plan.

We have changed the way we account for our grant money which is now listed as gross income.

Memberships and major gifts are down for the year, being 90% of plan estimates.

Underwriting income is greater than our plan estimates.

Professional fee expenses were less than our plan estimates.

Overall we are doing a good job planning for our income and expenses.

Our payment into our Reserve fund was \$98,000 for 2011. Our goal is to have \$117,000 in reserves as that would equal 3 months of operating expenses. We expect to have \$99,000 in reserves for 2012.

The Budget Committee is formalizing the accounting process for our income and expenses.

EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT: Meredith Carson

Pie R Square Dance

The event took place on 10/2 and grossed \$859. This was down from the \$1129 we grossed last year. Some of the reasons could be no silent auction this year, there were more children this year who got in free, and lots of folks brought pies so their tickets were discounted. However it is a popular and low cost event and we will continue to do it.

Juan Gonzales & Joseph Torres

This event is scheduled for Thursday 10/27 at 7pm at the Highlands Church in Denver at 32nd & Lowell. The ticket prices will be \$10 for members, \$15 for the general public, and \$100 for the pre-talk reception with Juan and Joseph. The cost for the church rental is \$250 and there will be a \$100 fee for the use of the church microphones. Thanks to Judy for doing the site visit.

We also looked at Swallow Hill's Daniels Hall for this or future, events. They're interested in working with us, and we would definitely like to partner with Swallow Hill at some point in the future.

Greg Palast

We will be hosting two shows with author Greg Palast on Saturday, November 19, at 2 pm Mercury Café in Denver and at 7:30 pm at the Unity Church in Boulder.

The Hotel Boulderado has discounted the cost that KGNU has to pay for his room. They will also provide transportation for him. We're working with Lefthand Books to provide the books for the event, which will include a book signing.

Secret Shows

There will be 2 secret shows this year on Dec 8th & 9th at the Odd Fellows Hall in Boulder.

The first show on the 8th will be a seated show and the second show on the 9th is a stand up show.

On December 8, the band will be Bad Ripper (anagram). The ticket prices will be \$17 and \$19. We should be able to leak it a little bit next week.

No band is confirmed as of yet for the show on the 9th. It would be a stand up show, a bit rowdier, and selling a lot of beer. It would be a less expensive ticket price than the sit down show.

New Members

The committee plans to meet in October and November. There are two potential new members; Roz Brown, long-time musician and music teacher in the area, and Beth Dobos, also a potential new board member. In addition, Nancy Smith the executive director of Frequent Flyers Aerial Dance Troupe is also interested in joining the committee.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Joy Barrett

NomCom presented Robin Van Norman for membership on the board of directors. NomCom feels that her skills would be useful to the board and voted last night to nominate her to the board. Her qualifications include good experience on another non-profit board, and skills involving team work and facilitating projects. She has attended several KGNU board meetings and was a member of the Volunteer Retention committee.

The board took time to interview Robin and then went into executive session and discussed her nomination.

A vote was taken and Robin was approved for board membership.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Unitarian Universalist Church radio project was discussed. The Church collects money for local radio and some of the money they collect is given to KGNU.

Sam updated us on the KCFR AM offshoot that is currently running a loop of music in prep for a full launch later this month. KCFR has a lot of resources to promote this station that in some ways will compete with KGNU.

Barry informed the board that David Wilson will not be applying for a second term on the board due to a potential conflict with his new job. He would like to leave it open for a possible second term further down the road. He will continue to work on committees as well as continue giving free legal advice to the station.

Sam said that there is no news on the Estes Park signal that we have been negotiating with.

Judy brought up the issue of changing the board meeting time to 7pm. Barry suggested that we discuss it if Sam gets voted onto the Boulder Valley school board, as the day of the week of our board meetings may change as a result.

Our annual board meeting is next month. The staff will give presentations and all committees will submit a written report.

7:38pm - Meeting adjourned

Membership Drive

As of Monday morning, Oct. 10th, we have \$23,725 in pre-drive renewals. We had \$29,000 in pre-drive renewals when we started the Fall 2010 drive (and \$18,000 in pre-drive for Spring 2011). This reduction appears to be part of a nationwide trend—many stations are reporting significantly lower pre-drive totals compared to 2010.

We are in better shape with challenge grants. Current total = \$27,450. In Fall 2010, we had \$29,500 in challenges. Based on tentative commitments and follow-up calls, we expect to meet or exceed that amount.

The drive begins this Wednesday, Oct. 12th, and runs through Saturday, Oct. 22nd. Please help spread the word!

Grants Update

We received our third year of funding from the Denver Foundation. The foundation has awarded KGNU unrestricted operating grants of \$17,500 in 2009, 2010 and 2011 (\$52,500 total). They fund on a three-year cycle, so we will have to take a year off before applying again.

KGNU and donnie betts submitted a grant to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to fund “Destination Freedom: Black Radio Days” a series of historical African-American radio dramas produced by donnie and broadcast live on KGNU. We expect to hear from the NEA in December.

We are in our third and final year of Colorado Health Foundation funding for our “Eat Your Radio” project. We are looking for funding to continue the project in Denver public schools and expand it to other area school districts.

E-Newsletter

We will be launching an email newsletter to our listener-members next month. The goal is present a concise and clean overview of things happening at the station that will keep our listeners more engaged with us outside of pledge drive time.

Sam Fuqua

Events Committee October Report to the Board October 11, 2011 Submitted by Meredith Carson

PIE R SQUARE DANCE, October 2:

We grossed \$859 at the Pie R Square fundraiser on October 2 at the adorable Altona Grange. Shawna says, "We raised \$1129 last year, so we did \$270 less. I really thought that the event was great, and we had a lot of positive feedback, but apparently attendance was a bit less. I don't have the numbers of 2009 to compare. We did forgo the silent auction portion of the event, as we didn't really have any good items to use, so that accounts for a little bit of the difference." We also discussed the fact that there were a lot more kids at this year's event - kids got in free. So though it seemed to be just as many people, more of them didn't pay to get in. Thanks to all the board members (and everyone else) who baked a pie or two - there was plenty of pie! And we got to witness Basit and his parents square-dancing. It was a good afternoon.

JUAN GONZALEZ AND JOSEPH TORREZ, Thursday, October 27, 7:00 pm:

KGNU will present Juan Gonzales (Democracy Now!) and Joseph Torres (Free Press) at the Highlands Church (rental ~\$250 donation) in Denver on October 27th at 7pm. We will also host a reception preceding the event 6-7pm, where we will have light refreshments. Ticket price is \$10 member; \$15 public, \$100 reception. Brown Paper Tickets.

Judy Trompeter did a site visit to the Highlands Church. She says, "The church is in good condition, seats 300+ in sanctuary, and has a nice room nearby for the reception, with a kitchen with sink and fridge just off it. The only drawback I could see is that the street parking is usually full and the several lots nearby charge \$3.00 for an evening. There will be an additional charge, probably \$100, for 2-3 mikes. The usual donation is \$100-150, Joe said when I pressed him for a range. He has us penciled in on 10/27 and will await your call, either yeah or nay. There is lots of activity in the immediate neighborhood, with many restaurants, shops, and houses. We could put up posters and try to draw in the neighbors. It isn't anymore, I don't believe, a Latino/a neighborhood, so we'd have to post flyers in surrounding neighborhoods, too."

We also contact Swallow Hill about using Daniels Hall (seats ~300) for this, or future, events. They're interested in working with us, and are offering a pretty good rental matrix, which includes their theatre, their lobby for a reception, and their sound man for some money and an underwriting trade. We decided to go with Highlands Church for this event, but will definitely partner with Swallow Hill at some point in the future.

GREG PALAST, Saturday, November 19, 2 pm and 7:30 pm:

We'll be hosting two events with Greg Palast on Saturday, November 19. The first, on Saturday, November 19 from 2-4pm at the Mercury Cafe in Denver, and second, the same day, at 7:30 p.m. at the Unity Church in Boulder. Shawna got one night at the Hotel Boulderado comped, and a nicely discounted room of \$139 for the 2nd night. They will handle his transportation. We're working with Lefthand Books to provide the books for the event, which will include a book signing.

SECRET SHOWS, December 9 and 10, 7:30 pm:

We anticipate one, perhaps two, secret shows in December. John Schaefer is currently pulling together details for these. We already have PA and lights for both nights. Thinking about possibly doing a silent auction, too.

We have the Odd Fellows Hall booked for December 9 and 10. On December 9, the band will be Bad Ripper (anagram...). There will be an opener. We'll charge \$17 and \$19, and should be able to sell it out. It will be a seated show - no sitting on the floor for this one. John will finalize this one this week, and we should be able to leak it a little bit next week.

December 10 is also reserved at IOOF. John has talked to a couple of bands about this night - nothing confirmed yet. It would be a stand up show, rowdier, selling a lot of beer. Totally different draw. It would be a less expensive ticket.

Just a side note - I have a friend who I think will donate a case of wine to sell and possibly two "significant" bottles to auction off.

EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING:

I'm planning to convene the events committee in October and November. We have two potential new members - Roz Brown, long-time musician and music teacher in the area, and Beth Dobos, who came to our last board meeting and is interested in joining the board. And at some point after Halloween, we expect Nancy Smith (executive director of Frequent Flyers Aerial Dance Troupe) to be able to join the committee. She's been interested for a long time, and hasn't had time until now.

If any of you know people who might like to be on this committee, please let me know.

Meredith N. Carson | Patron Services Manager Arts & Venues Denver

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