Minutes

WOMR Board of Directors Meeting
5 PM, November 13, 2018
Wellfleet Preservation Hall, 335 Main St, Wellfleet, MA

In Attendance: Ira Wood, John Braden, Fred Boak, John Yingling, Breon Dunigan, Rick Sigel, Tony Pierson, Mark Adams, Justine Alten, Sheila House, Andy Rahorcsak (Program Committee), Carol Courneen (PC), Denya LeVine (PC), Ross McDonald (PC), Matt Dunn (staff)

Regrets: Seth Rolbein, Susan Lindquist, Marcy Feller, Dave Wilber, Steve Gass, Bruce Bierhans,

Meeting called to order at 5:05pm

Public Comment: none

Minutes: Fred moved to approve October BoD minutes, Sheila seconded, approval was unanimous (8-o-o).

Finance Committee report: attached
Fiscal 2018 year-end summary: income above budget, expenses under budget, for net $27k; no big items off-budget, a little here/a little there

Executive Director’s report: attached
As of the BoD meeting, pledge drive had raised approx. 41k, which is in line with last year’s fall drive. Soft-sell pitches will follow, and John expects that by end of year we should make the goal.
Susan Lindquist is ailing, with hospice at her home. Susan gave a generous donation to the station, which the Finance Committee recommends we put into the station reserve and revisit later in the BECC process.

Program Committee:
The Program Committee was invited to the November BoD meeting, and the general discussion topic was how to proceed with reviewing/re-training DJ’s and replacing them as they leave

Carol said that the PC has moved to long-term subbing arrangements and tried to get regular seasonal substitute DJ’s for some slots open to vacationing/traveling DJ’s on leave of absence (seasonal being approx. 6 months, with leaves longer than 6 months handled on a conditional basis). It has been working well with the Sunday afternoon slot where Jim Harrington and Pandora Peoples have alternated for 2 years now, and the PC is now advertising for seasonal subs to handle the slots for DJ’s T-Bird, Helene Watt, and Rich Willecke.

There were questions about balancing the experience of and audience familiarity with a long-time DJ who leaves for 6 months every year vs the consistency of a year-round DJ and potential enthusiasm of a new DJ. The PC agreed that it is an issue that the PC considers, and that they usually arrive on a clear consensus. Denya added that PC members like and respect each other.

Ira asked if the PC is open to DJ’s programming music other what is currently in a slot when considering substitutes, and PC members agreed that they certainly are.
Ross said that people he talk to who listen to WOMR really LISTEN to WOMR and appreciate the freedom and variations in programming. He suggested that we could advertise upcoming open time slots during the show itself, to give listeners of that show a chance to take over the programming during a DJ’s absence.

Rick suggested that we consider promoting shows that are unlike the one currently airing, helping to promote the variety of programming on the station.

Ira moved the discussion to best standards for DJ's. Denya brought up the board's prior discussion of moving to 2 hour time slots. Ira said that the strategic plan says we should considering moving in that direction. Carol said that the PC is open minded about it, but that there isn’t a clear blueprint for it.

Ross suggested that, before new equipment is installed, perhaps there might be opportunity to have a mock soundboard somewhere like the Davis Space, to allow for training. Matt said he looks forward to having everyone's (DJ's) attention when we have the new equipment, that he doesn't think the machinery is really the stumbling block regarding best practices for most people, but juggling all the aspects of putting a show on the air. He added that shiny new things will hopefully generate more excitement. Andy said that the PC feels as if they are not in the best position to enforce them, and that hopefully new equipment will provide a way of training without being heavy handed.

Tony asked “would the PC be better off if it were bigger?” To which all PC members answered “NO.”

Outgoing Board Members/Reflections:
There was champagne!! We also toasted Mark Adams on his birthday.

John Y said that he will continue to be involved, and will be as helpful as he can be. Ira asked John how he feels about term limits, and John replied that he thought they are a positive thing for the organization, but judgment is still out and that replacing Ira is going to be a big task.

Sheila said that she'll still be involved with the station, that she will continue to be on committees (being off the board is “one less meeting a month”).

Big Party Update:
Cape Cod Beer is donating beer for the event, thanks to Bruce.
There are several art ideas, which will be discussed at the next BECC meeting (Tues Nov 20, 4:30pm at Eastham Library)
Zoe Lewis will be performing at the party.
John B told us that Tom from Squidda contacted him and the band would like to do a reunion show to benefit the station (this would be separate from the party)

BECC Update:
Big Party planning in progress
We need to solidify the budget, which has crept over the $250k goal
There are foundation applications in progress and submitted (Kelly Foundation was mentioned)
We currently have a gap of approx $100k

Next BoD meeting:
Meeting adjourned at 6:11: Sheila moved to adjourn, John Y seconded, approval was unanimous (8-o-o)

Minutes by Fred Boak