

# **MINUTES OF THE KGNU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Monday, December 8, 2014**

**700 Kalamath St., Denver, CO 80204**

## **Board Members Present**

Jon Walton, Chair

Liz Lane, Vice Chair (remote via teleconference link)

Risë Keller, Secretary

Jeannie Brisson

Gavin Dahl

Robin Van Norman (remote via teleconference link)

David Wilson, Ex-Officio, non-voting

## **Board Members Absent**

Joy Barrett

## **Guests**

Marge Taniwaka

Louis Wolfe

## **6:02 pm-Meeting called to order by Jon Walton**

Agenda approved

November minutes approved

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Marge asked whether anyone knows how to reach Eugene Stan.

## **STATION MANAGER'S REPORT: David Wilson**

### **Membership**

We closed out our Fall Membership Drive, including donations arising from our post-drive letter, at \$220K (\$11K over our drive goal). Our end-of-year fundraising is off to a solid start, having raised \$5K in the first week following the end of year letter being sent out; this exceeds where we were last year at the same time. SOLR membership also continues to grow; we are currently at 935 SOLR members; this projects an annual income from SOLR membership at \$136K. The fundraising goal for Colorado Gives Day (December 9) is \$13,900. Donations given through Colorado Gives Day and the Community Foundation are matched but not dollar-for-dollar – there is about \$1 million in matching funds for all the nonprofits participating in this year's Colorado Gives Day fundraising campaign. Altogether KGNU will raise about \$45K in December. The goal for all membership income for the year is \$436K.

### **Events**

We have several holiday events scheduled this month, including KGNU's Holiday Party at the Boulder Station on Thursday, December 11th, from 5:00 pm to 8:30. We are also holding a KGNU Open House and Storytelling at the Denver Station on Saturday, December 20th, from 2 to 5:30 pm, when participants can share a holiday memory. Experienced volunteers will train novices on on-air skills. Events Committee is actively working on our Mardi Gras event with the Colorado Friends of Cajun and

Zydeco; this year's event will happen Saturday, February 7th, at the Avalon Ballroom in Boulder. Tickets are available now at Brown Paper Tickets at discount prices through the end of the year. Ticket prices will increase January 1 and at the door the day of the event. See <http://kgnu.org> for more details about these upcoming events.

Jon said that we don't have a Board member on the Events Committee any longer. According to the Bylaws, the Events Committee needs one. The next meeting is at 6:00 PM on January 7, at the Denver station.

### **Programming**

With the end of production of Feature Story News (FSN), Program Committee has been reviewing numerous programs to replace FSN, including The Shortwave Report, Making Contact, Between the Lines, and TUC Radio. Free Speech Radio News will continue on Fridays; Community Public Radio News will continue Tuesday to Friday at 5:30 am. Program Committee has also been considering changing the afternoon clock to shift 3:30 pm programs (Ralph Nader, Democracy Now, Thom Hartmann, and Tavis Smiley) to 4:00 pm and 4:30 program (BBC) to 5:00 pm. We have been seeking input from listeners with on-air announcements and web postings. Comments are being accepted until the next Program Committee meeting, on Tuesday, January 6, when the committee will make decisions about news programs and the timing of existing and new programming. Gavin expressed concern about some of the news services we are using.

### **Development and Capital Campaign**

We have continued to develop materials for major donor fundraising, including handouts regarding AfterFM and News.KGNU.org. We continue to work on different efforts to increase our major donors and supporters for the capital campaign, including an additional end of year letter. As part of the capital campaign, we hope to install a new board in the Denver studio in the first quarter of 2015 along with upgrading our membership database system. Replacing an HVAC unit is next on the list, and we are trying to raise funds to buy a back-up generator. We are developing more structure for effective grant writing for 2015. Liz commented we still need Board member and staff biographies for the Development Committee, no later than January 22.

### **Engineering and IT**

We continue to work to make improvements to our website and playlist system through our work with Sean Williams and Peter Billig.

### **RETREAT PLANNING: Risë Keller and Liz Lane**

The retreat date is Saturday, January 31, 2015, 9 AM-4:30 PM, at the YWCA (which now stands for You, Women, Children, All of us), at 2222 14th St. (at Mapleton), in Boulder. People don't have to be there for the entire day. Folks are welcome to come for all or part of the proceedings.

We are working with Jamie Morgan and Lance Rushton to provide a morning plenary session on diversity and inclusiveness, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

We are soliciting food donations so we can have lunch on-site.

Past retreats have had two breakout sessions after lunch, with two choices of session per time block. We will follow that structure with a plenary session on what it means to be a volunteer at KGNU. Dave Ashton would also like to present information about the Volunteer Survey at the retreat.

Anyone who wants to help with retreat planning is welcome.

We encourage staff and volunteers to send retreat ideas and suggestions to [retreat@kgnu.org](mailto:retreat@kgnu.org).

The Retreat Committee will send emails to the Volunteer email alias about retreat plans.

**PUBLIC COMMENT and General Discussion**

Jeannie asked why underwriting income is down for the year. David said that as of the end of November we are at 100 percent of our goal income from underwriting. Gavin asked Dave Ashton about Denver underwriting efforts, past and present. Currently, Kenneth covers Boulder underwriting, but we might need to add an underwriter in Denver.

Louis commented that advertising is counter to KGNU's mission. He listened to Afternoon Sound Alternative recently and heard a DJ endorse the underwriter during a break. Louis felt this was inappropriate. Others present noted that the written guidelines for DJs forbid this kind of on-air endorsement.

Dave and Jeannie commented on the positive aspects of underwriting messages. David said a lot of our underwriters are participating in trades with KGNU, giving the example of KGNU's partnership with Denver Open Media. He said through underwriting, folks who contribute their services and goods to KGNU get something in return. Jeannie said she learns a lot about the community through underwriting messages.

David said he and other staff members are updating data and underwriting materials, and he plans to provide an update on underwriting at the January Board meeting.

Marge wanted to honor long-time volunteer Eulalia Theodore, who died a couple of months ago. She frequently called in and was a huge fan of KGNU.

**7:22 pm – Meeting adjourned**