

## **March 2021 KGNU Board of Directors Meeting**

KGNU Board of Directors  
March 8, 2021, 6:00 p.m.  
ZOOM Meeting  
Boulder, CO

### **Board members attending:**

Rebekah Hartman - Chair  
Barbara Stern - Vice Chair  
Carl Armon – Treasurer  
Roz Brown – Secretary  
Sanford Baran  
Robert Hastings  
Elena Klaver  
Tim Russo - Station Manager (Ex-Officio Board Member)

### **Staff members attending:**

Verity Matthews

### **Public/station volunteers attending:**

James Gralian  
Chris Wilkerson  
Mary Neff  
Marti Hopper  
Joy Barrett  
Nile Southern  
Iris Berkeley  
James Duncan  
Jim Jobson  
Eric Scace  
Marge Taniwaki

**Executive Committee:** The Board’s Executive Committee met on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 to set the agenda for this board meeting.

## **March meeting called to order: 6:03**

### **Public Comments:**

- KGNU listener member Marti Hopper joined the meeting to ask that KGNU present more non-mainstream views on COVID-19 and vaccines

## **Station Manager Report: Tim Russo**

### **Coronavirus Protocols**

There are no Coronavirus studio or station protocol updates since the tightened measures were implemented in October. We will remain closed to the public; maintain the [current studio usage protocols](#), limiting one person in the Red Studio at a time, a suspension of studio rentals, radio training classes, etc. Both the Boulder and new Denver Studios have self-screening stations at the front desks. We encourage everyone to use the contact trace apps that are available. We continue to follow the state and county guidelines and [COVID-19 Dial](#) to determine our path. Studio

rules do not change regardless of whether individual DJ's/Hosts have received a vaccination. We encourage all working volunteers, staff at the buildings to double mask while in public spaces.

### **Spring Fund Drive**

KGNU Spring Fund Drive just kicked off and runs March 6-14. It is the Spring Forward with KGNU Fund Drive with a seasonal \$100,000 goal. There are still some virtual phone shifts that need filling. Please contact Verity Matthews to schedule a shift.

### **New KGNU APP**

We have a beta APP that staff is reviewing during the drive. We'll work through a few bugs immediately after the drive and enlist a few folks for additional testing and UX input.

### **News Director Search**

We are excited to announce the hire of Shannon Young, longtime radio and independent media journalist, former senior editor at Free Speech Radio News, Volunteer Coordinator at KPFT and regular producer for PRX's The World among others outlets. Shannon is scheduled to begin on April 1st. We will continue to work with Roz Brown and Sam Fuqua as Interim Morning News Producers while the News Director settles in. I want to thank the Search Committee for an excellent job reviewing and interviewing applicants to formulate their recommendation for the next News Director.

### **Grants and Programs**

KGNU was just awarded another relief grant through the Colorado Arts and Culture Relief Fund managed by the Denver Foundation. The grant will help cover lost revenues from events, studio rentals, and training fees.

We continue to await direction on the PPP quick loan forgiveness application.

Impact Architects released an extensive nationwide [Healthy News and Information Ecosystems](#) independent "report with case studies of nine communities in the US, as well as creative strategies that newsrooms, foundations, and others are implementing to strengthen their news & information ecosystems." Boulder County was one of the nine communities included and KGNU was a core focus of the Boulder County case study in this high profile report.

### **Technical/Engineering**

We continue to work on stabilizing and slowly upgrading several technical issues at the AM site as well as addressing maintenance issues at the FM site. This is on-going arduous work. We've acquired more modern and capable site monitoring and remote control equipment to reduce downtime and improve response time to issues as they arise. Over the next months we'll be working to configure and install this equipment starting at the AM site.

### **DEI/Anti-Oppression Training**

The next Board training will be in April. Board/Committee training should follow.

### **CPB/FCC/Audit**

The KGNU Frequency License is up for renewal in 2021. We continue to await further instructions from our DC counsel and or the FCC.

We completed and submitted our annual [Station Activity Survey](#) (SAS) for the CPB, which has been approved. We completed our [Annual Financial Audit of Fiscal Year 2019-2020](#). We completed and submitted our [Annual](#)

[Financial Report \(AFR\)](#) to the CPB in a timely fashion. These documents can be found on the KGNU website. We will begin the annual 990 Tax Filings as the next step.

Barb moved to accept audit; seconded by Elena - approved by BOD.

**CAB Meeting Scheduled for 3/10 @ 6PM (This meeting will be postponed until April 21)**

### **Public Comment/Feedback**

- Verity suggested we have an on-air call out to listeners to become members of the station
- Nile suggested we return to having a “state of the station” report from the station manager

### **Development Committee Report**

**1-18-2021 Meeting:** Attendees: Chair: Robert Hastings, KGNU Staff Liaisons, Verity Matthelews and Sarah Shirazi, Yukar, Barbara Stern and Mary Neff

### **Development Director Update (Sarah)**

- a. Successful Mardi Gras raised approx. \$4,600, less than \$300 in expenses
- b. Spring Drive March 6-14
  - i. Sending out Challenge Grant letter for Major Donors
  - ii. Underwriting Sponsorship Campaign
  - iii. Drawing to win a two-night stay at the snow mountain ranch

### **Membership Coordinator Update (Verity)**

- a. Check-in on Cultivation Calls- SOLR Members - 1,300 People calls in progress
  - i. 810 left
  - ii. 45 calls a day
  - vii. Encouraging committee members (of other committees to help make calls)
  - viii. Robert/ Barb continue to encourage Board and Committee members to help make phone calls

### **Spring Fund Drive March 6-14 (Verity)**

#### a. Renewal Calls

Spring Fund Drive Thank you Calls

- i. Start 3/16- TBD
- ii. Completed by 3/23
- iii. Verity will ask Board and Committee members

### **King Soopers Donation Marketing Plan**

- a. In progress  
about the program

### **More grocery store outreach?**

### **Guys Who Give (Danielle)**

- a. Thank you, Danielle!
- b. Eli and Robert will try to get involved, at least let them know about KGNU

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 15, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom**

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### **Treasurer Report - Carl Armon**

Our total income was about \$387.5K. Our expenses were about \$349.3K, so we had a net income to date of about \$38.2K. Our budgeted net income for January was \$41.3K, a difference of about \$3K.

Contributions to **income** include: underwriting, car donations, CPB funding, grants, memberships, program guide ad revenue, studio production time and training fees, and special events income.

Contributions to **expenses** include: debt service, employee benefits, interest, IT, insurance, office supplies, professional fees, program acquisition, rents, salaries, and payroll taxes.

#### **Income**

Through the end of January, we were at 110% of our income goals, above budget by about \$36.5K. We were at 110% of our membership goal, with actual income \$22.7K above income goal for the month. We are at 63% of our January budget goal for business/industry underwriting, and we are at 198% of our budget goal for car donations (\$10K above goal).

#### **Expenses**

Our total expenses through the end of January were at 99% of our projected amount. Engineering professional fees were at 15% of the budgeted amount, and Repairs & Maintenance was at 66% of the budgeted amount.

#### **Overall**

We were at 110% of income goals and 99% of budgeted expenses for January 2021. However, our Net Income is a bit below the budget estimate: \$38.2K compared to our budgeted value of \$41.3K.

### **Strategic Planning Committee Report**

Tuesday, February 23, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom

Meeting: Attendees: Chair: Sanford Baran; Staff Liaison, Tim Russo; Members: Marge Taniwaki, Roz Brown

Started to develop a Strat 'Work Agenda' for fiscal year 2021. i.e... what projects should Strat concentrate on in 2021?

Potential items for Strat involvement are:

1. Possible presentation to the Board summarizing the pros and cons of our current practice of limiting consideration for Board membership to primarily KGNU Volunteers. Could that expand to non-volunteers but KGNU members. What about Board membership for non members?
2. Drive the discussion particularly on the Board... 'How to find the right balance between honoring our past, respecting and upholding our mission, with the need to adapt to the changed media landscape and demographics that we face as a station today.'
3. Recruit more strategic thinkers onto Strat, with the goal of increasing diversity and inclusion on this Committee and be a living example of how a Committee can balance tradition with needed agility and change.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 16th, 5 - 6:15 PM on ZOOM.

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### **Capital Expansion Committee Report - Amplifying Community**

**3-1-2021 Meeting:** Attendees: Co-Chairs: Elena Klaver & Kathy Partridge; Staff Liaison: Tim Russo; Board Liaisons: Carl Armon; Robert Hastings and Roz Brown; Member:; Eli Kalen

We reported on updates with our prospects. We talked about setting up a longer term plan with milestones or objectives. We talked about revising the major donor list to look at who might have contacts with them. We talked about setting up concrete action plans for our prospects, prioritizing them and focusing on more likely ones.

**Next Meeting: Monday, April 1, 4:30 p.m. via Zoom**

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### **Public Questions/Feedback/Comments**

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### **Nomination Committee**

February 15, 2021 NomCom Meeting

Members and guests Present: Co-chair Nile Southern, Evan Perkins, Marge Taniwaki, Chris Nathan, Thomas Lenk

\*The Knight Foundation focusing on COVID coverage by local media—their forum a possibly useful networking opportunity for Nomcom. [Evan]

\*Round-robin update on individual prospects, including discussion of new potential prospects and who will follow-up on same.

\*Updating ‘Application Guidelines’ (for live web-page application and the downloadable PDF)—discussion on specific language tweaks, and also integration of recently revised ‘Desired Characteristics’.

\*Brief discussion of current thinking on a ‘Youth Advisory’ position on

**ACTION ITEMS:**

\*Nile to forward revised language for Application on Guidelines and suggestions/options for integrating

‘Desired Characteristic/aspects. (task completed 2/25).

\*Nile to forward Evan revised ‘requirements’ language for minor corrections on of Application

\*Nile, Joy, Elena [have] set a date with Timo for a ending April Nomcom meeting to discuss Youth Advisory-type position(s) and youth leadership engagement at KGNU in general.

\*Nile to upload finalized Tracking Sheet to Nomcom portal.

\*Point persons for recruiting prospective NomCom and board members will follow up on actions as discussed.

\*Nile to attend next Volunteer Orientation (3/4).

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### **Events Committee Report**

**2-5-2021 Meeting:** Attendees: Co-Chair: Barbara Stern; Co-chair Kathy Metzger; Staff Liaison, Sarah Shirazi; Members: Dave Ashton, Yukari Miyame, Dan Williag, Meredith Carson, Kathleen Martindale

**Mardi Gras** numbers are almost complete; preliminary net profit is \$4500.00. 214 people registered online: approximately

313 people attended. Surveys were sent out, 35 returned with overall experiences as satisfied.

**Plant Sale** is being discussed now and know it can't be done as we've done in the past. Proposal being out together to see about making this Plant Sale a major birthday celebration fundraiser by working with nurseries to provide a 5% of net sales for May 22nd.

**Lecture Series** has a few ideas for this summer/fall series. Working group will report back to the main group.

**The Charles** event at Gold Hill is being explored as are other options such as being total Virtual as last year, modified attendance at Gold Hill, and possibly a live broadcast from our parking lot with a VIP ticket and live stream of the event.

**Rocky Grass** it's unknown how/if this event will happen this year. Calls and conversations are being made to see if this is feasible this year.

The next Events Committee meeting is scheduled for March 3, at 6pm via Zoom

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### **Program Committee Report - Jim Jobson**

**2-23-2021 Meeting:** Attendees: Chair: Jim Jobson; Board Liaisons: Rebekah Hartman and Carol Armon; Staff Liaisons: Indra Raj, Dave Ashton; Members: Guy Erickson, Michael Buck

#### **Topic: Spanish language program shift follow up**

Discussion about how to improve feedback regarding KGNU's programming being systematically funneled to the programming committee. How to funnel comments on the comment line to the committee. Could be a responsibility of the next news director. Not all comments are relevant for the program committee.

This public interest in Spanish-language programming change underscores that we have more of an opportunity to look to a wider geographic community (not just Boulder) with our Spanish news programming.

Procedures for making programming changes were not observed during this shift, and it caused fallout. We decided that we need to revisit the procedures for program changes. This will likely be tabled until the news director is on board.

**Topic: Gospel Chime show review** The playlist was great, and here was a lot of diversity. Much music diversity within gospel. Tightly produced no dead air, proper sequencing. Suggestion that the talking breaks could have been longer with more talk about the tracks, different styles within gospel music. Good story about the trans gospel group.

#### **Topic: Destination Freedom show review**

Background: We've been able to essentially present Destination Freedom's "greatest hits" by Dave editing down the original broadcasts down to Metro length - this one was from 2011.

General feedback: Great editing to length.

By far one of her favorite experiences we've had the opportunity to present on KGNU, wishes we could present more of these; so in line with our mission.

donnie has significant foundation support, KGNU offering Fiscal Sponsorship support has enabled us to partner and add to our progressive vision — and pass the great content on to our listeners.

#### **Addenda/misc**

Glad we are doing show reviews again. Getting the links out sooner is extremely helpful.

Brief discussion of fund drive with an eye toward whether special themed shows are more effective - especially since it;s women's history month. Our message needs to be "giving to" rather than "getting from". Emphasise benefits of KGNU and not overdoing the premiums/gifts received.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, via Zoom at 6 pm

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**Announcements/New Business - none**

**Adjournment 7:32 p.m.**

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