

April 2021 KGNU Board of Directors Meeting

KGNU Board of Directors
April 12, 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
Shiquita Yarbrough
Tim Russo - Station Manager (Ex-Officio Board Member)
Elena Klaver - absent
Robert Hastings - absent

Staff members attending:

Dave Ashton
Verity Matthews
Sarah Shirazi
Shannon Young
Rossana Longo

Public/station volunteers attending:

James Gralian
Bill Hargrove
Joy Barrett
Yukari Miyamae
Nile Southern
Rise Kelller
Steve Priem
Mary Neff
Iris Berkeley
Jim Jobson
Eric Scace
Marge Taniwaki
Raj Rawat

Executive Committee: The Board's Executive Committee met on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 to set the agenda for this board meeting.

April meeting called to order: 6:03

Station Manager Report: Tim Russo

News Director Welcome

We are excited to welcome 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 started on April 1st and is getting settled in, starting first working with Roz Brown and Sam Fuqua, our Interim Morning News Producers to learn the process and systems.

I want to extend very sincere thanks to Roz Brown and Sam Fuqua for stepping up for these many months to continue to provide critical local news and information to our communities.

I also want to sincerely thank the Search Committee, composed of Jamie Sudler, Liz Lane, Tish Beauford, Shiquita Yarbrough, Rossana Longo and Roz Brown, just one more time for an excellent job working to find Shannon.

We will be planning and hosting a series of virtual meet and greets and community listening sessions over the next weeks and months as Shannon settles in and can open time to meet the many volunteers that KGNU buzz and the many community members who will have input on important issues they would like to see covered by the KGNU News Department.

Spring Fund Drive

KGNU Spring Fund Drive March 6-14 saw a very positive community and listener response. Between pre-drive mailings, challenges and on-air contributions we brought in approximately \$93,000 of the \$100,000 seasonal goal. Volunteer DJ's and hosts prepared and executed a great sounding drive that really resonated with listeners. Special thanks to staff, board members, and volunteers who signed up for phones, back-end work and drove an all round excellent Fund Drive.

New KGNU APP

We have a new APP that staff has been reviewing. This can now be freely downloaded to try out by going to the Android or Apple stores, searching for KGNU and downloading the app. We are still working through bugs and will be developing a short survey to share with volunteers and board members so that you may offer concise and directed input through a single portal, which will allow staff to better process that input on any bugs users may encounter with the app. The current Radio Rethink Mobile Player will continue to function as it currently does but is better suited for laptops and desktops whereas the KGNU APP offers a significantly more personalized experience with many more features and links to content. We hope to launch a public campaign to drive people towards the APP by mid-May.

Grants and Programs

KGNU submitted the PPP quick loan forgiveness application last week after our lender provided the application portal/process in early April. We will await confirmation of the forgiveness. In the meantime, KGNU continues to a final review of eligibility for a second draw.

KGNU has continued to apply for a handful of grants.

Technical/Engineering

There is much on-going technical work at both transmitter sites. We also suffered two prolonged power outages at the Boulder studios recently that put into test a simple back up transmission plan that we had just put in place prior to the March Historic Snow Storm (when we actually did not lose power). We are still working to improve the interim back up system to reduce downtime during any type of outage. Staff will be reviewing emergency protocols, security protocols and cybersecurity requirements as well over the next several months.

DEI/Anti-Oppression Training

The next Board training will be in late April or early May, a doodle was sent by Rebekah to lock in the date.

CPB/FCC

The KGNU Frequency License renewals for our two primary FM & AM signals as well as our three translator signals were all successfully granted late in March. We will begin to update our FCC Public Files once the renewals have been placed by the FCC into the appropriate files. We expect the clean up to begin in May.

The CPB is holding a series of discussions to determine how to best distribute another financial appropriation granted to support public media through the most recent federal stimulus legislation. This could represent another small to medium sized injection of funds to support stations such as KGNU, while the focus will be on rural and small stations who may be more vulnerable to the negative economic effects of the last year.

CAB Meeting Scheduled for 4/21 @ 5PM

Has been postponed as last minute cancellation by several members means quorum would not be met. New dates will be posted on our website as soon as they have been determined.

Coronavirus Protocols

While we recognize that people are chomping at the bits for things to be back to “normal” as the vaccination rates improve, COVID-19 cases also continue to climb locally. Therefore 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. Studio rules do not change regardless of whether individual DJ's/Hosts have received a vaccination. Masks are still required, as are studio cleaning protocols. We hope to begin to loosen restrictions once all staff have been vaccinated and as we get into the summer months.

Public Comment/Feedback - none

Development Committee Report

3-15-2021 Meeting: Attendees: KGNU Staff Liaisons, Verity Matthelews and Sarah Shirazi, Barbara Stern, board liaison; members: Mary Neff and Yukari

Development - Sarah moved forward on several grants, in her usual super-effective way.

- a) The King Soopers Community Loyalty Plan is still on track. We ask that the BOD let their network know about this initiative.
- b) Sarah got KGNU on a Colorado Income Tax checkbox for donations to nonprofits. This will be more fully publicized next year.

Membership Drive - Verity herded the cats (coordinated) in the midst of a database upgrade to Salesforce. We are short of our goal of \$100K by \$6500, which is normal. The drive officially closes at the end of May.

DevCom (and the board) made Thank You Calls, SOLR renewal cultivation, as well as coordinating challenge grants and drive schwag.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 19, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom

+++++

Treasurer Report - Carl Armon

Our total income was about \$493.8K. Our expenses were about \$432.7K, so we had a net income to date of

about \$61.0K. Our budgeted net income for February was < \$1K, a difference of about \$60K!

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. Cumulative income through February is about \$61.0K.

Income: Through the end of February, we were at 110% of our income goals, above budget by about \$46.5K. We were

at 107% of our membership goal, with actual income \$19.1K above income goal for the month. We are at 85% of our February budget goal for business/industry underwriting, and we are at 173% of our budget goal for car donations (\$10K above goal).

Expenses: Our total expenses through the end of February were at 97% of our projected amount. Engineering professional fees were at 12% of the budgeted amount, and Repairs & Maintenance was at 81% of the budgeted amount.

Overall: We were at 110% of income goals and 97% of budgeted expenses for February 2021. Additionally, our Net Income is much higher than the budget estimate: \$61.0K compared to our budgeted value of about \$1.0K.

Strategic Planning Committee Report

3-16-2021 Meeting: Attendees: Chair: Sanford Baran, Eric Scace, Marge Taniwaki, Tim Russo, staff liaison

Continued our discussion re: what projects Strat should concentrate on in 2021

Timo and I are due to meet on Friday 4/9 to do an inventory of current staff initiatives having strategic importance. As Strat considers its 2021 goals, important to be aware of activity already underway. This will help us more accurately zero-in on areas within the organization that need particular attention from a strategic perspective.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 20, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom

+++++

Capital Expansion Committee Report - Amplifying Community

4-5-2021 Meeting: Attendees: Co-Chair: Elena Klaver; Co-Chair: Kathy Partridge; Carl Armon, Board Liaison; Robert Hastings, Board Liaison; Tim Russo, Staff Liaison

We five reported on our contacts of potential donors, and talked about several other topics:

- getting more board involvement in outreach to potential donors
- how to better plan and use our time
- using the written materials already produced
- looking at proposed timeline for when we move from quiet phase
- possible future events, when in-person events will be possible

Next Meeting: Monday, May 3, 4:30 p.m. via Zoom

+++++

Program Committee

3-23-2021 Meeting: Chair, Jim Jobson; Carl Armon, board liaison; Indra Raj and Dave ashton, staff liaisons; members: Iris Berkeley, Michael Buck, Guy Erickson; Marti Hopper, public attendee.

TopTopic: Review of Reggae Bloodlines:

Questions about host/co-host/guest status. When is it required to go through our standard radio training program.

TopTopic: Review of Metro “Sacred Voices”:

Second Friday of the month has been about spoken word as part of the overall Friday Metro Arts focus

TopTopic: Covid news coverage:

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 27, 6 p.m.

++++++

Public Questions/Feedback/Comments -none

++++++

Nomination Committee - Co-Chairs Nile Southern and Joy Barrett

3-15-2021 Meeting: Attendees: Co-Chairs, Joy Barrett and Nile Southern; Evan Perkins, staff liaison, Elena Klaver, board liaison; members: Marge Taniwaki, Bill Hogrew, Thomas Lenk

Review critical dates for current board members’ tenure.

- Conduct round-robin update on prospects, and next steps.
- Determine tactics to increase outreach for Board prospects; develop action items for aggressive outreach plan and how each one of us will follow-up accordingly.
- Finalize tweaks to the Guidelines for board interest page on website.
- Post the “desired characteristics of board prospects.”

Summary of discussions:

Board Member Tenures: The next board member terms to end are the first terms for Sanford and Carl, which expire in September 2021.

The committee discussed several prospects and who in the committee would act as point person for each (including some new prospects and one who has just completed membership requirement). Chris Wilkerson (DJ Chris Nathan) attended the last board meeting and announced he was interested in applying for the board.

Topics from the discussion of outreach included maintaining a long-term view for prospective board members. Tasks were assigned for investigating enthusiastic volunteers during the latest fund drive, reviving our form for tracking hosts and guests on shows as potential prospects, expanding outreach into previously untapped communities, and collaborating with Verity.

Changes to the “Guidelines” document were discussed.

Meeting outcomes:

NomCom members committed to nine Action Items pertaining to following up with board prospects and targeted outreach for committee and board prospects.

- **Next meeting date: April 19, 6 p.m.**

++++++

Events Committee Report

4-7-2021 Meeting: Attendees: Co-Chair: Barbara Stern; Co-chair Kathy Metzger; Staff Liaison, Sarah Shirazi; Members: Dave Ashton, Yukari Miyame, Shiquita Yarborough, Kathleen Martindale

Plant Sale/Birthday Fundraiser will be Saturday, May 22nd. Members of the Committee will be contacting several nurseries to ask for a percentage of their sales on that day. There will be promotions around this in May.

Lecture Series/ Author Sarah Elkens will do a one hour talk on April 28th via Zoom. Her book, " Your Stories Don't Define You How You Tell Them Will" will be the basis of this evening of community outreach.

Dave and Yukari are working on other speakers to be added at a later date.

The Charles is slated for July 18th. There are many questions about how we can have a safe event. Many details to be worked on.

Yard Bazaar, formerly known as the CD and Record Sale, is being discussed to be held over Labor Day weekend.

The next Events Committee meeting is scheduled for May 5, at 6pm via Zoom

+++++

Announcements/New Business

Raj Rawat - KGNU needs to be protected - it's priceless.

DEI Training Board - next meeting is Tues. April 27th 4-6 p.m.

Adjournment 7:15 p.m.

----END----