

# Meeting Minutes

Community Advisory Board Meeting  
April 5, 2021 at 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

**Present:** J. Riman, Chair; M. Bess; L. Caldwell Epps, WBGO Board of Trustee Liaison; J. Harris; M. McDonough; A. Montague; P. Morgan, Vice-Chair; B. Pulliam

**Absent:** R. Glover; S. Schear, Secretary

**Staff:** S. Williams, WBGO President & CEO; B. Wood, Marketing Manager

**Guests:** Sheila Anderson; Keanna Faircloth; Dorthaan Kirk; Isaiah McLean, John Newcott; Nicole Sweeney; Roslyn Turner

**Thank You to Mike McDonough for Stepping in Last Minute to Take the Following Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes from last meeting were approved: Becca Pulliam moved for approval; seconded by Pamela Morgan.

-Jeffrey Riman reminded everyone about the updated website which is part of the updated WBGO content management system.

-Jeffrey provided an intro to the meeting saying the CAB is the voice of the WBGO community and listening audience. Most CAB members are from the local WBGO community and provide input to the station on what is going on in that community.

-Jeffrey introduced Steve Williams and Linda Caldwell Epps, the new WBGO Board Liaison to the CAB.

-Jeffrey referenced two CAB initiatives (1) The Musician's Directory being led by Jackie Harris and (2) The Youth Jazz Appreciation Council being led by Dani Childress.

-Jeffrey reminded the audience of the CAB application process with a reminder that CAB members must be WBGO members and must disclose any personal relationships with staff or Directors of WBGO.

-Steve Williams briefly discussed the recent fund raiser where 1,600 donors raised \$240,000 and reminded the audience that it's never too late to make a donation. He also advised that the annual WBGO Gala will likely be a video event with performances by staff members and local artists which will run about 1 hour and would be released for viewing in mid-June. The station is looking for funders and participants for this effort. He also reminded everyone that International Jazz Day is April 30th and that the entire month of April will include live-streamed jazz performances. He further announced that WBGO has identified and is in the process of hiring a replacement for Chris Tobin who passed away in 12/2020.

-Jeffrey advised that the CAB will be co-sponsoring a screening of the WBGO documentary in conjunction with our next CAB meeting on June 7. He suggested we might also include a possible panel discussion involving people

from the station's history as well as its present to discuss how the station has evolved over its 40+ year history. A WBGO guest suggested including a tribute to Albert Murray. Linda Epps suggested we might try and auction off some sort of station memorabilia as part of the event. Becca Pulliam is working on a project to preserve station audio archives and the question was raised as to whether there was anything there that could be auctioned. Jeffrey Riman echoed the question about whether there may be memorabilia at the station that could be auctioned. John Newcott of the station reminded us that the June fund drive ends the day before this event and wondered if the auction could somehow be linked to that fund raiser. Dorthaan Kirk mentioned that her foundation will be sponsoring a screening of the documentary this Friday, 4/9. Mike McDonough suggested we might abbreviate the actual CAB meeting on 6/7 to allow more time for the screening/panel discussion.

-Jeffrey went into greater detail on the above-mentioned two initiatives:

(1) Jackie Harris briefly mentioned the Musician's Directory effort which is to benefit NJ area jazz musicians. She mentioned that Steve Williams is supportive and that the directory will be a collaboration between WBGO and the CAB. More information to be provided in June.

(2) Jeffrey Riman discussed the Youth Jazz Appreciation Initiative which is being led by CAB member Dani Childress which aims to provide another channel for there to be input to the CASB by younger jazz listeners. Jeffrey reminded us that while minors can't be CAB members, we still very much want to hear their views. A proposal will be made for the 6/7 CAB meeting. Keanna Faircloth asked if this group could be a sub-committee of the CAB. Jackie Harris asked if we could seek feedback from schools that are part of the WBGO Education initiative. Mark Bess suggested we reach out to High School and other music programs. He also wondered if we could consider running a jazz version of the successful "Verzuz" franchise where musical groups "compete" against each other for audience recognition or perhaps tap other social media sites to access younger listeners. Antoinette Montague suggested using the Clubhouse app to create forums for jazz discussions among younger listeners. A WBGO guest thought that WBGO could run an ad asking for feedback from younger listeners. Keanna Faircloth echoed the suggestion to use social media such as Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat and other platforms to access younger listeners. Becca Pulliam said that the NJ PAC has outreach programs of this kind and Brandy Wood advised she has already sent out (and will resend to Jeffrey) a list of local organizations who provide this kind of outreach.

-Jeffrey Riman closed the meeting by reminding all that the CAB still intends to hold its potluck picnic and is now aiming for a possible August date.

Respectfully submitted minutes taken by Mike McDonough,

Susan Schear, Secretary

May 8, 2021

**The next meeting is June 7, 2021, at 5 pm**

**WBGO Community Advisory Board Website.** <http://www.wbgo.org/community-advisory-board>

**WBGO MISSION:** WBGO is a publicly supported, cultural institution that champions jazz and presents news to a worldwide audience through radio, other technologies and events.