



**NEWARK PUBLIC RADIO, INC.
COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB)**

**STEVEN A. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT & CEO**

**ANTOINETTE MONTAGUE
CHAIR, COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD**

Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 5, 2025

5:00 p.m.

Steven A. Williams requested that we delay the start of the meeting due to allow for key participants to join, (e.g. Phyllis and Obie Taiwan).

Antoinette Montague advised that we have 21 participants in queue on the phone chat. She sent Junius Williams's video documentary to Steve's email to be shared in the meeting. Steve requested that Phyllis or someone else introduce and screen share the video.

Steve stated we have a quorum and Antoinette said we have 24 participants in queue on phone so we can now get started.

Antoinette welcomed all to the quarterly WBGO CAB Meeting, and acknowledged the presence our special guest, Junius Williams, Official Historian for the City of Newark, Activist, Educator and Attorney. She noted that there were now 21 persons in attendance.

Carrie Jackson, CAB Secretary, called the meeting to order and called the roll:

Antoinette Montague, Carrie Jackson, Reginald Blanding, Beth, Rashon Davis, Ronald Glover, Whitney Marchell Jackson, Peter Kyriakopoulos Andrew Manns, Becca Pullium, Steven Williams, Joyce Woodson, Zakiyya Zai'Mah, Pamela Morgan, Michele Ralph-Rawls, Doug Doyle.

Antoinette requested approval of minutes from the Feb 3, 2025 quarterly meeting. Carrie Jackson made a motion that the minutes be approved and accepted. Marchell Jackson seconded the motion. The vote was called and the motion passed without objection.

Antoinette Montague, Chair's Report

- . Fundraising and Marketing engagements
- . CAB Members are encouraged to support on many levels
- . Discussions and concerns from Andrew Manns, Vice Chair

By-laws are clear on the responsibilities of CAB, nothing in by-laws as to fund raising. As a body we need to focus on the PBS for the CAB. This was detailed by the Chair some time ago. **Antoinette** stated that CAB Members have pitched and supported the station during the fundraising seasons.

Steve will lay out some definitive pathways for anyone who would like to participate in the drive, on air, if you so inclined. CAB members may also volunteer to take calls from listeners, as well as assist with organizational preparation for the drive.

Antoinette: Review of CAB-Laws is in place and presently being reviewed handled by in-house attorneys regarding term limit of leadership. Motion is made to extend leadership to 3 years is requested and was completed by Pam Morgan.

We are seeking CAB members who wish to assist in staffing WBGO tables at various events that help to promote the station. We need to create a simple flyer that lets people know there is a Community Advisory Board and they can participate by coming to our meetings and assisting the CAB in building up the station. We need more interest and ideas around increasing our community visibility. Please contact us, and if interested in volunteering for the station, please contact: Sylvia Brewer, Director of WBGO Volunteers at sbrewer@wbgo.org. Information can also be found on our website at: **WBGO.ORG**

Marchelle volunteered to create CAB flyers and assist the radio station with other ideas for participation and support.

Antoinette revisited prior discussions on the development of a musician's directory. It was to initially begin with Newark, eventually spreading out to surrounding areas. It was to begin with jazz & blues genres. However, the project was challenged due to the cost.

Upon the approval of Steve and the Board of Trustees, we can move forward with the directory, to include fayemi shakur, Director of Arts & Culture for the City of Newark and Reginald Blanding of the Newark Public Library. We can also include other interested parties to in collaboration with the community of musicians.

Antoinette requests that we send letter of acknowledgement to Chris Daniels. **Andrew Manns** notes that he is a NJ Film Maker and thanks him for his video on the History of Newark and WBGO, which has won numerous awards and accolades. Chris has been a major contributor and is resigning from the CAB.

Reginald Blanding introduced "**Music and Poetry**" to include the showing of a Malcolm X film on May 22nd, a book signing for Sylvia Robinson on May 6th, the author of "**Mark Money Green**". June 18th will feature Black History programs and events for **Juneteenth**, as well as other notable events. For further information please contact the Newark Public Library. I would like to pick up WBGO materials. Reginald was referred to **Michele** who will manage points of contact.

Steve welcomes any opportunity to engage with the community with open arms. It's just a question of being able to allocate staff and funding. The station needs advance notifications.

Antoinette mentions a notice received by the CAB as to what's going on in Washington DC regarding NPR and CPB funding to support the station. How can we, as CAB, assist in promoting and helping the station?

Andrew requests a moment of silence to acknowledge Jazz Musicians that have passed away over the past several months:

Andy Bey, (Newark Native) Tempo, Sam Kidd, Lio Fleming, Francis Davis, Roy Ayers, Joe Louis Walker, Mark, Jazz Bassist, George Freeman, Drew Zing, Bob Perkins, Sam Moore, Roy Haynes, Lenny Welch, Randy Brown, Dewayne, Jerry Butler, Roberta Flack Chris Jasper, and more.

Antoinette acknowledged Michele Ralph-Rawls's Birthday.

Steve thanked all for supporting the station and acknowledged WBGO Staff and Board of Trustee Members.

We are approaching a WBGO Fund Drive in June. Public media across the country will be impacted by President Trump's Executive Order to claw back funds that have already been awarded by CPB. Please contact your Congressional representative regarding these much-needed dollars.

WBGO will be well- represented by Steve & Michele at the CPB "Fly-in". They will meet with US Senators Cory Booker and Andy Kim, as well as Congresswoman LaMonica McIver. Please let them know how important WBGO is to you.

Exciting additions to WBGO daytime and nighttime hours. Several new programs include:

1. 6-8am **Hard Bop Café**, Monifa Brown, classic and neo classic artists.
2. New voice addition to WBGO, Paul Cavolcante, hosts **New Standards**, 6-8am on Wednesdays and 10pm-1am on Saturdays.
3. Encore broadcast **Singers Unlimited** 6-8am, Lezlie Harrison & Janis Siegel
4. John Pizzarelli, guitarist and his wife, Jessica Molaskey host **Radio Deluxe** Monday, Tues, Wednesday, 8pm-midnight,
5. New Show **NightByrds** with seasoned hosts, Sheila Anderson and Awilda Rivera, 8 pm- midnight on Thursdays and Fridays.

Carrie acknowledged and announced folks in the chat.

Michele encouraged everyone to read email communications sent by **Steve** about what's currently going on in Washington, DC. **Steve** also elaborated on the threat of cutting funds to NPR and CPB, as well as the process of federal appropriation of monies to support operating budgets. Overall, Congress has the power to rescind. We must step up even with the politics.

Andrew asks quick questions and asked to be invited to attend any of Steve's future public speaking engagements

Antoinette introduced Junius Williams, Guest Speaker at **4:53pm**

Film about Music in City of Newark. Phyllis helps with video presentation (abridged version). Official Historian...been in Newark over 50 years. Community organizer, immersed in the history of Newark.

Folks came to Newark for Blues, Jazz, and Gospel, with the great Tommy Dorsey, Alex Bradford, Leon Lumpkin, Grace Smith He elaborated on Barbara Kukla's book ***Swing City*** that focuses on Newark Jazz in the 1950's. He talked about early Jazz Clubs in Newark, ***The Key Club***, organist in Newark, ***Sparky J's***, ***Peppermint (Lounge) Entertainment Center*** in Orange.

Junius also mentioned Rhoda Scott, Dionne Warwick, Sarah Vaughn, Melba Moore, Lord of the Underground, Whitney Houston, Queen Latifah, Gloria Gaynor, Wayne Shorter--- all were a part of the Newark music scene .