**SPR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 01-20-2022 (Via Zoom)**

In Attendance: □ John Allison X Marlo Faulkner X Daniel Fratini X Gary Livingston

X Linda Mielke X Melanie Rose □ JenWestra

Staff: X Cary Boyce X Beth Severn-Johnson X Renee Scacco

X Emily Nelson Notes by: X Beth Severn-Johnson

Call to order: 5:31 pm

Approve old minutes: 1st \_Marlo\_\_\_\_ 2nd\_\_Dan\_\_\_\_\_\_ approved: \_YES\_

**Old Business:**

* Personnel changes:
  + Renee is leaving us for WSU. We are deeply grateful for her service. Cary has asked her to stay on “retainer” to help us over the transition and training of Emily Nelson, her replacement—already on board—as well as for critical moments like the audit.
  + Savannah Estey [ESS-tee] hired as new Marketing and Events Specialist (FT), currently working on our Website platform transition with NPR—fairly smooth so far.
  + Two new PT positions are being posted:
    - Morning Edition Host
    - Underwriting Representative (may become FT when sustainable)
    - **UW Training with Market Enginuity is proceeding.**
* Strategic Plan update: (MR and LM)—defer to plan a retreat for this purpose?

We will try to plan a Mini Retreat in Feb.2022.

* CPB Update: 10% increase for SPR as anticipated
* End of Year was strong. Underwriting up 9% YoY to date, and Membership up 6%.
* WA State Capital Grant Update Red tape: DAHP paperwork complete, and awaiting contract from the state so we can begin purchases and installations.
* CAB Minutes: Still very pleased with additions of Rebecca and Brandon and the increase in local news content, will listen to new programs. On key comment: The CAB wondered if a repeat of ***On Point*** (currently 9am and 4pm on KSFC) is the best option to expand KSFC as a primary growth factor.
* N3—Reporters are arguing to hire an editor for the Washington stations. The N3 Board of Directors will discuss this. It’s complicated. Who would pay?
* NWPB:
  + Kerry Swanson’s and Marvin Marcello’s positions have been consoldiated into one. Cara Williams Fry was hired, she arrives in February.
  + A new “digital news director” has just been hired.
* NWPB Maintenance Agreement—Kerry left for KUOW before we were able to finalize any agreement. We are looking at other options. Jerry has a lead on possible partnership with a local engineer. This may provide an easier solution.
* Audit completed very positive. – Financials are stable for the moment.
* CPB Annual Financial Report (AFR) was submitted. Questions (typical) have just arrived today, and we’ll address them tomorrow with Eide Bailly’s help.

**New Business, Misc.:**

* KPBX outages: Jerry and Cary went up to Mica Peak transmitter on several occasions to de-ice the antennas and move the signal to back up transmitters. OK for the moment.
* Melanie – How do we communicate with listeners when there is an outage?
  + CB: We post on website – Continue broadcasting over HD and Web/Streaming, make announcements during the outage on how to listen and announcements as to timing of signal recovery. The suggestion was made to have more on-air “thank you for your patience” announcements.
* Gary suggested a one-time “equipment campaign” ie: dedicated fund drive
* New board application from Rick Shaffer (needs a nomination committee?)
* Motion made to add Rick Shaffer to the BOD 1st: Marlo 2nd: Gary Approved: YES
* **New legislative ask? Cary talked about communications from the legislature and discussions with Ann Parker (former SPR Board Chair and state lobbyist).** Agreed among the BOD that SPR should wait until the “long session” that begins in January 2023 to ask State for funds ie: Infrastructure – Kirby Building, etc. Cary will begin designing the “ask,” and updating legislators. BTW, Sen. Andy Billig, a long-time legislative advocate for SPR, may be retiring soon.
* Melanie **–** Can we look into other Federal Programs?
* Gary **–** There will be opportunities for Broadband Improvements for Rural Communities.
* Cary—we may be able to tie in the “Rural Think Tank initiative” about rural journalism.

Discussion is beginning for new BOD member applications. We have 1 opening currently with 2 more in the near future.

**Next meeting**: April 14, 2022

Adjourned\_6:30\_ pm

Easter April 17

April 5 – CAB / April 14 - BOD

Drive dates generally April 19-22

July 12 - CAB / July 21 - BOD