MINUTES OF THE WLRN
COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB) MEETING

September 11, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by CAB Chair Jo Asmundsson at 12:05 PM.

CAB MEMBERS, WLRN STAFF AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Jo Asmundsson, George Braddock, Rafael Ribeiro, George Early, Jeanne Westphal, John Labonia, Alan Tomlinson, Adrienne Kennedy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the May 8th, 2014 meeting. Members present accepted and approved the minutes as published.

ANNUAL PROGRAMMING REPORT: The Annual Programming Report was approved. Mr. LaBonia recognized Bernie Siy for her hard work in producing such a complex and detailed report every year. The report was unanimously accepted. This will now be presented to the Superintendent, School Board Members, Friends of WLRN Board and posted to the WLRN website.

WLRN TV ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS: WLRN Director of Programming & Production Alan Tomlinson presented a series of video clips of future documentaries coming this Fall. He listed original productions, including; Deep City: The Birth of the Miami Sound which screens in Miami at the Lyric Theater on September 16, Treblinka’s Last Witness screens at Olympia Theater on October 21st, Journey to the Macy’s Parade will broadcast throughout November and documents a Tarpon Springs Marching Band and one Fort Lauderdale attorney as they prepare for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. The Wall Artists documentary will broadcast early next year.

Alan Tomlinson presented a short nature segment on Panthers, under the working title of Big Cypress Safari. These segments will eventually be created into a full show. Nature and wildlife abounds in Florida. It has been well received and the possibility of making these excerpts into a full length documentary is possible.

Video clips were shown of three homegrown musicians recorded in WLRN’s studio. These segments are used as filler between programming. The station is reaching out to organizations like the Rhythm Foundation to cast a wider net to bring in new artists.

Mr. Tomlinson closes with news about our new color correction machine has been installed in the TV studios, this enables, a more precise, color interpretation.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT: John LaBonia explained the WLRN Programming Fund. Corporations, organizations and individuals can contribute funds to be matched dollar-for-dollar to support WLRN’s original programming. The station works with South Florida related subject matter with national appeal. Mr. LaBonia also adds the possibility of working with Jacques Cousteau on a documentary about his experience living in the Aquarius, an underwater laboratory, for a solid 31 days. The laboratory was located off the coast of the Key Largo. Mr.
LaBonia also adds that the Treblinka Education Guide is almost finished and will be distributed to high school students in MDCPS.

John LaBonia reported that the news room at Doral is almost completed and should be ready for full use by the end of this month. The news studio in the WLRN offices he hoped would be available for opening at the end of the year. These two offices will be used simultaneously and staff will be working out of either office, producing the same story, as though they are both in the same news room. Sound proofing has been given intense scrutiny to enable a perfect presentation.

Mr. LaBonia mentions that Leadership Florida and the Florida Press Association named WLRN Public Media the exclusive radio partner for the Mayoral Gubernatorial Debate. WLRN will hold the exclusive radio rights to simulcast the debate from Broward College, while producing an additional one-hour pre-debate and one-hour post-debate coverage. All Florida public radio stations will carry the debate with WLRN as producer on Oct. 15, 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM with a tour of the new studios being built in the WLRN offices.

NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 13, 2014 AT NOON