

WOOL-FM Board of Directors Meeting

December 11, 2019

Present: Bill Holtz, Cheryl Gay Sherwin, John McCann, Bob Osborne, Gary Smith, Bruce Sterling. **Absent:** Melissa Berry Brown, Ginger Driscoll. **Also present:** Betsy Thomason

Bill called the meeting to order at 6:15.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Meeting minutes of 11/13/19 were reviewed. Gary moved to accept minutes as amended, OzzyBob seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report was reviewed. Current figures are: People's Account=\$13,642.83, PayPal Account=\$1725.18 for a total of \$15,368.01. Cheryl moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, OzzyBob seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Silent Auction was discussed. This year's Silent Auction was the most successful yet, even without any big ticket items.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ADMIN AND TECH SUPPORT:

--Spinitron update? Gary talked to Ava there and we are looking to start Spinitron in January 2020.

-- EBay Charity account went away; the presumption is that it went away because we did not use it.

-- Delayed mandatory and costly EAS update is January 7, 2020. Bruce is hoping to get it done soon. It was agreed that Bruce will pay the approximate price of \$300-\$350 and put in for reimbursement.

-- Mark P. still working on computer update and swap.

--WOOL donation from FirstLight. Multiple phone calls from Gary and Tony to Nick Cave at First Light, and they have not heard back from him. We received a bill for \$4,248.70 with over \$42 of finance charges. Still working on it.

--Mountaintop – Comcast likely departs hub early 2020.

2. OLD BUSINESS

--**Station cleanup** was completed (mostly by Bruce, Evan and Bill—Thank you guys!) and Dot's space looks clean and spacious now. Great job!

3. PROGRAMMING:

--The Childrens' Hour Library will be replaced by The Children's Hour Podcast.

--Holiday music has begun; it will run December 5th through January 1st.

--Betsy Thomason passed the hands on and written tests. Upon Board approval her show "UNCONDITIONAL" will be Thursdays noon to 1pm, a talk show about Exploring all Facets of Personal and Community Well Being. John moved to approve, OzzyBob seconded, motion passed unanimously.

--Ryan Coyne has paid his Host fee in November and will begin training Friday. He is interested in a talk show about various organizations that help society.

--Jeff Ramen is Evan's sidekick on Infinite Is, he has paid his Host fee and will begin training in January.

--Liam Madden has had a couple trainings with John. He still needs to do the test and he needs a little more training. His show will be Exploring the Potential of the Borders between Science and Spirit.

--John informed the Board of schedule changes he will be making.

4. PUBLICITY AND BRANDING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

--Underwriting. OzzyBob will send SB Auction soundbite to Bill. OzzyBob is working on putting together the underwriting for MacLaomainn's Scottish Pub.

--Mascoma Bank's Donation Committee. It will be for the new console. Cheryl will ask Katie to come to the January WOOL Board meeting.

--Upcoming Event...John Stowell and Draa Hobbs Concert 15 DEC, Stage 33 Live and WOOL. There is a PSA in rotation.

5. MEMBERSHIP

--Membership Renewal: January 3rd at 5:00, Popolo

NEW BUSINESS

1. Public File: Cheryl will get Issues Logs submitted to the FCC by Jan 10th, she promises!

2. Red lined WOOL Host Training Manual. Tabled until after new console and Spintron updates.

3. We might send Thank you notes to organizations and to the community in local papers.

4. Politics: WOOL was contacted about a presidential candidate and a supporter who wanted to get on the air and talk about her. Historically we have avoided the topic because we cannot control the conversation that goes out. It could lead to disrespect of certain populations of the community. While political speech is important, we are not in a position to police it adequately and keep it civil. A candidate cannot be endorsed by WOOL. Bruce will send the woman our policy and let her know it's up to the discretion of the individual Host as to whether they are willing to invite a political guest on their show. WOOL's Policy is as follows:

Political Advocacy and Candidacy Free Speech and Fair Speech are equally important in WOOL's broadcasts. These are WOOL's policies regarding political advocacy and candidacy, intended to keep our exercise of free political speech both fair and lawful. "When free time is provided for use by or on behalf of candidates, a record of the free time provided shall be placed in the political file." — 47 CFR Part 73 | Subpart H, Rules Applicable to All Broadcast Stations | § 73.1943. WOOL's policy is that any WOOL program host who interviews any candidate for any political office, or who has a guest who substantially speaks in favor of or against any candidate for any political office, or who personally speaks substantially in favor of or against any candidate for any political office, is required to present a written record detailing the date, time, individual speaker(s), candidate name(s), and a synopsis of the discussion or presentation to the WOOL Board within three days of the broadcast. Failure to do so can result in immediate termination of broadcast privileges. The written record, per 47 CFR Part 73 | Subpart H, Rules Applicable to All Broadcast Stations | § 73.1943, must be retained in the station's Public File for two years. This policy does not impinge on free speech. Although the FCC has discarded The Fairness Doctrine that required providing equal air time to opposing political candidates who request it as a result of air time provided to another candidate, WOOL has not. WOOL's policy is that any WOOL program host who interviews any candidate for any political office, or who has a guest who substantially speaks in favor of or against any candidate for any political office, or who personally speaks substantially in favor of or against any candidate for any political office, is required to provide equal air time for any opposing candidate(s) or their official representatives who request it. Any initial and responding air time for or against any candidate(s) requires that the host prepare and provide to the WOOL Board the previously described documentation for the Public File. WOOL's policy is that any Program Host who is a candidate for any public office must relinquish their WOOL broadcasting privilege for the duration of their candidacy. 47 CFR Part 73 | Subpart H, Rules Applicable to All Broadcast Stations | § 73.1940 indicates that a candidate for public office is any person who has publicly announced their intention to run for nomination or office, and is qualified under law to hold that office. WOOL also considers individuals proposed for appointed public office as candidates for the duration of the representing body's deliberation. Public office holders may be program hosts, but not during their candidacy.

John proposed adjourning the meeting, Gary seconded - the vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Gay Sherwin