

WOOL Board of Directors Meeting
Great Falls Community Broadcasting Company
33 Bridge Street Bellows Falls VT 05101
Wednesday, 9 August 2023
6:00 – 7:19 pm
MINUTES

Attendance: Bruce Sterling, Melissa Brown, Don Dawson, Evan Parks, Erin Petrie, Skye Payne (minutes)
Hosts/Guests: Eric Kallio, RF, Michael Johnston
Absent: Tony Elliott, John McCann

1. REVIEW MINUTES from JULY 2023

MOTION: Evan moved to approve August minutes with minor corrections discussed. Erin seconded. Passed unanimously.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT (*documents supplied by Tony; see Attachments*)

- “looking pretty healthy”
- M&T account closed out and has shifted to account at Mascoma Bank
- ZOOM charge from Gary's account – need to get it shifted over to a WOOL account – will look into talking to ZOOM about handling account of deceased member

MOTION: Evan moved to Accept Treasurer's Report as presented. Erin seconded. Passed unanimously.

3. ADMIN & TECH SUPPORT

- Studio tech update
 - Used UPS battery backup replacement did not work - \$170, so may sell to recover some of that
 - Currently no battery protection on console – adequate battery backup needed – there are lots of mini connect-disconnect moments as the nearby dam operates
 - Evan suggests getting a generator or whole house battery rather than piecemeal with lots of little units which do not use the best technology, so it gets expensive in the long run
 - Generator would need housing, permits, landlord permission, etc.
 - Evan will contact Vermont Association of Broadcasters for grant information – also a safety issue as we are an emergency broadcast site
 - Time to order batteries for the stack in the office – each unit needs 2, and each costs about \$20 – Board agreed to spend the \$120 to replace those batteries
 - Need to have a Tech Committee meeting to review options and come up with a plan
- WOOL now has remote broadcast tech that will be used at the Chester Fall Festival, September 15th-16th and with Joann Erenhouse of Senior Solutions program on September 22nd (*60 or Better*) – equipment can broadcast with excellent fidelity!
- John getting frustrated with all the time he has been putting into dealing with the Pacifica issues
- WOOL mail and voicemail report
 - Mail almost nonexistent
 - Did get email contacts about volunteering and hosting
 - Anthony Sancerelli would like to host & has no experience
 - Susan MacNeill of *Cozy Corner* in Albany would like to visit and tour but has not called back

4. **MARKETING & MEMBERSHIP**

- Merchandise sales on website – pix need some work so Don continuing to tweak them
- 2023 WOOL Cold Call Membership Drive
 - All 266 envelopes and letters have now been printed out – no names on the letters so just fold and slot into the envelopes
 - Need to schedule lick'n'stick session! → 3pm this Sunday, August 13th at the station
 - As postage is increasing, may want to consider using post cards in the future, especially as more and more folks pay online
- Membership numbers from Bruce – total of 136 now
- MidRiver Bulletin Board update
 - Don searching as many sites as he can to get information for it
 - Needs feedback from hosts if getting enough → hosts tonight said it is looking good
 - Some announcements really take a lot of information and have to be pared down – some are too brief to help
- Bellows Falls Old Home Days – success! Lots of hosts showed up and helped – Thank you!!
 - Did interviews, music, announcements, etc.
 - Would like to offer opportunity for members to record PSAs
 - Also for local musicians and artists to record PSAs if they would like
- Evan found Black Sheep Radio YouTube page and we have the credentials –
 - Probably should have committee regulating information on it so not just one person's input
 - Film studio live music or interviews – maybe tour of the studio and how the equipment works
 - Maybe record some of the remote broadcast content
 - Maybe consider having a social media expert provide some direction - see if any hosts are interested – Don will email hosts about this

5. **PROGRAMMING**

- New shows /hosts in the queue
 - John Yake – just had 2nd training session with Bruce
 - *Walk of Seamus* has decided to move on and this Sunday is his last
 - Raina would like to host and has already paid her fee
 - Celtic Music Hour – ready to start soon and may fit into the *Walk of Seamus* slot – looking for a name
 - Other host news
- BMI & Spin-A-Tron report → tabled until John can report
- AudioPort fiasco → tabled until John can report
 - Switching from Juice to GPodder – John is working on this
- *Gary Rock Block Show* → Martin Royle has the show ready – will record to be repeatable from time to time
- Mark Edson curates new music that comes in – Evan does as well – to enter it into the automation machine

6. **NEW BUSINESS / OTHER BUSINESS** → none brought up

7. **ADJOURN**

MOTION: Don moved to adjourn. Evan seconded. Passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 13 September 2023



Treasurer's Report

DATE: August 9, 2023

TO: Great Falls Community Broadcasting Board of Directors

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We began the month of July with \$4,085.55 in our M&T Bank checking, \$15,000.00 in our Mascoma account and \$2,906.46 in our PayPal account for a total of \$21,992.01. We closed July with -\$151.07 in our M&T Bank account, \$18,079.43 in our Mascoma account and \$3,014.57 in PayPal for a total of \$20,942.93 in operating capital. This is a decrease of \$1,049.08 during July. It was a rocky closeout for the M&T Bank due to communications difficulties and being give wrong information about pending transactions. In spite of our attempt to fend it off and maintain a positive balance, an additional payment to CT Tower was made from the M&T account from Gary's automatic payments, which I could not access, causing an overdraft. I have been assured any overdraft fees will be waived. In the end, as of today, M&T has a \$0 balance and bank funds are in Mascoma and PayPal going forward. Furthermore, ZOOM charged us for another year of service. I have been working on getting a refund because we cannot access the account and they have been unable to assist. I expect it will be refunded eventually.

We opened a new bank account at Mascoma Bank, which has a branch conveniently in Walpole. We will hold most of our cash in the Mascoma account. Going forward, Pete will deposit checks received by mail into Mascoma. PayPal will continue to receive funds and we will transfer to Mascoma from time to time.

I will be unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a previous commitment. Let me know if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Pete", written in a cursive style.

Treasurer