

WXEL Community Advisory Board Meeting
26 January 2010
WXEL, 3401 S. Congress Avenue, Boynton Beach, FL

MINUTES

Present: Pablo del Real, Joan Starr, Bryce Combs, Mary Weiss, Darlene Kostrub, Justin Frankel, Joe Cohen, Martha Steinkamp, and James Roth.

Absent: Judith Garcia

Guests: Nine visitors attended the meeting including station volunteers and audience members. Jerry Carr, WXEL President and CEO; Bernie Henneberg, WXEL Vice President of Finance and CFO; and Marlene Ross, WXEL Director of Community Affairs.

Jerry Carr called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

Jerry Carr announced that Bernie Henneberg would assume the responsibilities of President and CEO upon Jerry Carr's retirement March 31, 2010. Mr. Carr also noted that he has had no communication with or from Barry University since the last Barry Telecommunications, Inc. board meeting took place at WXEL four months ago in September 2009.

1. Introductions

CAB member Pablo del Real presided over the meeting and asked all present to introduce themselves and their affiliation with WXEL.

2. Review of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting guidelines regarding the nature and role of our CAB

Corporation for Public Broadcasting guidelines were reviewed and discussed, specifically those regarding the nature and role of Community Advisory Boards.

A discussion followed in which Bryce Combs pointed out that the "guidelines" are in fact federal law and that CABs are required in order for public stations to receive CPB grant money. WXEL has historically received sums from \$900,000 to over one million dollars per year from the CPB; it is important for the CAB to advise the license holder on station policy, programming, and community service in order to meet the legal requirements enforced by the CPB. Bernie mentioned that WXEL had recently received \$60,000 from the CPB as part of a fiscal stabilization grant that was awarded to all public stations across the country.

3. Vote on the question of making the CAB independent

Bryce Combs moved that the WXEL Community Advisory Board become an independent body and separate from the stations per CPB guidelines. Motion seconded by Justin Frankel. Motion passed unanimously. Darlene Kostrub abstained.

4. Election of officers

Joan moved to nominate Pablo as Chair. Mary seconded the motion. Motion approved. Bryce moved to nominate Joan Starr as Vice-Chair. Justin seconded the motion; motion carried. Joan nominated Jim as Secretary. Joe seconded the motion; motion passed.

5. Determine priorities for our work within the scope of WXEL programming, policy, and community service

Chairman Pablo del Real led a discussion for the duration of the meeting which touched upon potential items to be included in the next meeting's agenda. Among the possibilities are how often to meet, when to meet, the length of future meetings, the drafting of by-laws, establishing a process for accepting new members, and other organizational functions of the group. It was suggested that we can borrow from the existing bylaws of other public broadcasting stations around the country as potential templates for our own bylaws. It was also suggested that we continue to limit our meetings to one hour, but that we need to have more frequent meetings, perhaps one per month.

It was decided and agreed to by the group that our next meeting would be held on the last Tuesday of the month, February 23, 11:00 a.m., in the WXEL conference room.

It was reiterated during general discussion among the group that the CAB is authorized to act in an advisory capacity only to the WXEL license holder, Barry Telecommunications, Inc. That said, one area of special concern is the ongoing effort by Barry to transfer the licenses. The consensus was that the license transfer needs to be addressed within the agenda of the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted by James Roth, Secretary