

Friends of WWOZ, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2017

Location:	The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation 1205 N Rampart St, New Orleans LA, 70116
Board Members Present:	Deborah Duplechin Harkins, Judge Sidney H Cates IV, Ruth Chouest, Ronald McClain, J.R. Pegues, Bob Edmundson, Marc Barnes, David Kerstein, Rachel Shields Via Phone: Courtney Slatten Katzenstein, Leonard Smith III
Board Members Absent:	Douglas Hammel
Foundation Staff Present:	Don Marshall
WWOZ Staff Present:	Dave Ankers, Arthur Cohen, David Freedman, Beau Royster, Pamela Wood, Scott Borne, Melanie Merz
Guest	Joe Crown

Call to Order: Ms. Hawkins called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. A Quorum was declared with eleven board members participating.

Minutes:

Mr. Pegues moved to accept the minutes of the March 8th board meeting. Mr. Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public Commentary:

Mr. Don Paul addressed the committee with concerns regarding diversity and programming at the station highlighting four main points: more democracy, fairer pay, more equal opportunity and more New Orleans. He issued the committee documentation that supported his concerns. (see attachment)

Report of the Chair: Ms. Hawkins deferred her report to the end of the meeting. She thanked the committee members and the OZ staff for their level of commitment and leadership.

Chief Operating Officer's Report:

Mr. Cohen referred committee members to his electronically submitted COO Report to the Board. He commended the OZ staff on a very successful 2017 JazzFest performance. He stated that the sound of the broadcast and the production in the hospitality tent were very

good during the JazzFest. He also gave special recognition to staff member Pearl for doing an exceptional job in managing the OZ hospitality tent.

Mr. Cohen also reported that the U.S. Administration approved the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) funding for 2018.

Mr. Pegues moved to accept the COO report. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Finance Committee Report:

Mr. Pegues distributed a summary flash report of the financials noting that the JazzFest numbers were not included. He stated that the finance committee did not meet during the month of May. WWOZ has ended its relationship with FNBC bank and moved funds to Whitney bank, averting any effects to cash flow. Revenues are at the net line and underwriting is slightly lagging again, not hitting its goal.

Mr. Kerstein asked for an explanation for why the underwriting numbers continue to lag?

Mr. Cohen explained it was due to the vacancy in the sponsor services representative in the development department.

Mr. McClain moved to accept the Finance committee report. Mr. Barnes seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Piano Night

Piano Night Chairperson, Ruth Chouest reported this year's Piano Night at the House of Blues was a packed house to the very end. It turned out to be an amazing success. The final financial report was submitted to the committee. The event earned a total of \$40,000. (see attached report) Ms. Chouest gave the floor to Joe Krown who thought the event was a diamond in the rough and likely to be further developed. The Piano Night team (Ruth Chouest, Joe Krown, Kathleen Edmundson and Leslie Cooper) were able to stick with the original plan, keep the talent consistent, stay within time restraints, manage the budget, and mobilize a devoted volunteer group. The artist Frenchie auctioned off three paintings. Mr. Krown emphasized the exceptional contributions of Ms. Edmundson and Ms. Cooper's services that made the event such the success that it was.

Ms. Shields suggested targeting younger generation non-profits such as 504ward for future events, based on the powerful connectivity for advertising. Mr. Freedman also suggested targeting the Young Leadership Council (YLC) non-profit.

Judge Cates moved to accept Piano Night report. Mr. Pegues seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chief Development Officer's Report:

Mr. Barnes reported that the major gift operation is moving in the right direction. He stated that the development team used JazzFest for cultivation and was able to secure a deal with the Louis Prima foundation for \$75,000 for three years to be used towards the Cuttin Class program.

The Development team did not meet for the month of May.

Ms. Hawkins requested committee members to invite Ms. Wood to at least one external event to help expose her OZ development projects and encourage donations.

Ms. Hawkins also requested Ms. Shields and Mr. Marshall to assist her with fundraising for the 2017 Crescent City Blues and BBQ Festival which is scheduled for October 13th thru 15th at Lafayette Square Park.

Mr. Pegues moved to accept the Development committee report. Mr. McClain seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Technology & Programming Committee Report

Mr. Cohen reported that WWOZ staff members are in the process of ordering programming equipment to be charged against the foundation capital grant. This spending will be exhausted before the end of the fiscal year, at which time Mr. Cohen will follow up with Ms. Hawkins to determine whether to ask for additional supplement funds.

Mr. Barnes moved to accept the Technology & Programming committee report. Mr. Pegues seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Real Estate Committee Report

Mr. Edmundson reported the Real Estate Committee plans to visit three sites. A site visit for one of the three properties is scheduled for next week. Mr. Freedman stated that he is preparing a 20 page proposal for another one of the three. By the end of next week all three properties will be visited and the committee will follow up with the results.

Ms. Chouest moved to accept the Real Estate committee report. Judge Cates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

HR Committee – Executive Session – Staffing

The committee accepted the report and recommendations of Judge Cates.

Ongoing Business: None

New Business: None

Next Meeting Date: WWOZ's next meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2017.

Adjournment: 5:32 p.m.