

WCUW 91.3FM

910 MAIN STREET, WORCESTER MA 01610

Board of Directors meeting: January 16, 2024 7:00 pm via Zoom

Attending:

Uma Ananth, Ed Arndt, Mark Babson, Greg Check, Nick Cozzens, Gail Hunt, Scott Hayman, Rick Hendra, John Solaperto, David Connell

Absent: Darren Pinto

Also Attending: Troy Tyree, Ex Officio, Walter Henritze

Meeting Called to order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice Chairman, Mark Babson

Review and Approval of Minutes from December Board Meeting

Gail Hunt pointed out that Robin Scott was at the December Meeting and that the person named Larry noted to be a member of the Infrastructure Committee meeting is Larry Haley. Scott said he would make these corrections. The minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously. Greg Check moved to approve the minutes and John Solaperto seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee and Task Force Assignments:

Rick Hendra pointed out that the Community Development and Fundraising Committee includes a lot of sub-committees. Scott thought that the Committee needs to work out how they would like to handle this—perhaps by meeting as a group, with reports in from the sub-committees as necessary. David Connell thought that the HR Committee's scope has expanded. He would like the opportunity to revisit whether he wants to be on the committee, given his participation in two committees now. He agreed he will attend one meeting and then decide what he might need to do. Mark suggested that, if you are listed as a convener of any of the Committees, please reach out to convene a meeting prior to next board meeting if possible.

Committee Reports

Infrastructure:

Greg: Summary

- Record store finished with a few small details to complete
- Planning underway on the Harold Stevens Gallery

- Melt away tiles have arrived according to Troy T
- Design drawings for fire alarm system nearly complete and will go out to bid.
- Fire Department Inspection- pending but not sure when they will come according to Troy.
- Troy is seeking out and inspection from City 's Inspectional Services with regards to license to conduct Front Room activities.
- Infrastructure Committee is pulling together a prioritized list of work to do next, while, meanwhile, Dan Hunt, Gail Hunt's husband, inspected the roof and did some cleaning and patching in response to a leak that Troy T. had reported. He also repaired a crack in the foundation wall exterior.
- Greg shared drawings and concept with regards to the Harold Stevens Gallery design, including record racks and benches and new ceiling and walls, as well as a new front arched entry into the Gallery from the front door.
- Gail pointed out that much of this design and concept is result of visit from Anne Souza (former Arts Worcester administrator) and photographer Steve DiRado.
- A permanent installation, as you enter the space, will feature a permanent installation/exhibit honoring Harold Stevens.
- The Gallery Opening will be an exhibit of Steven DiRado's photography. Steven's Clark students may also exhibit.
- Glass block wall that honors donors will be moved towards entry area
- Track lighting will be installed as well.

Greg then shared list of priority repair items not in any priority order (see report). His committee is yet to input on priority. Greg invited Board to share priorities now if they wanted to.

Scott expressed that the Heating System improvements should be a priority.

Mark expressed that priorities should be made according to urgency, such as the window n back of the building, causing heat loss. He otherwise urged that we need to prioritize items based on a budget and financial analysis.

Mark also asked about staffing for the Gallery. Is there a plan for this. Greg agreed that we need to address the question of staffing the gallery.

Discussion moved to the Recognition Event

- It was agreed that we would not hold the Event on the day of the Super Bowl.
- It was agreed that we should not be in a hurry and that the station is not ready anyways.

- It was agreed that we should move towards warm weather. Nick suggested perhaps April or mid-May.
- Scott suggested that we should give ourselves time to make the event grander.
- Uma suggested the committee needs budget approval for T-Shirts and Awards. 7 people have volunteered at station for 40 years.
- Gail thought we should not require volunteers to bring their own food. Uma summarized that food was not budgeted yet. Only 500 for awards, 350 for folks to be memorialized on the “wall” and 1,750 for the T-shirts (2,600)
- Mark suggested budget of up to \$3,000.
- John S. asked if we should have a separate budget for catering?
- Troy pointed out that the T Shirts will also be sold throughout the year so that as much a \$900 of revenue is possible.

Scott moved to budget up to \$3,000 for the Recognition event. Rick Hendra seconded the motion. Mark Babson proposed that the motion be amended to include that the \$3,000 be paid from the 50th Anniversary fundraising revenues. The Motion, including the amendment, was approved unanimously.

Report from the Executive Director (see Troy’s report)

- Troy reported on the Fire Alarm System, the Gallery, and an update on Cinema 910. Cinema 910 is applying for a grant to continue at the Station. 100 rental per use of the Front Room.
- \$1,523 in revenues from the recent Record Sale.
- Troy, responding to Mark, said the record shoppers all said “wow” to the new record store. Collectors did not turn out for this “short notice” record sale. The T&G writer, Craig S, said he would love to do a story when we are ready,
- Troy shared that the Day Marc foundation donor sent a wonderful card.
- Troy clarified a 500-matching gift for Folk programing.
- Walter Henritze, a founding member of the station, was commended for the appeal that he made to many of the early founders of the station.
- Walter Henritze commended the Board for doing and excellent job. All shared their appreciation and thanks for his words.

A fairly long discussion ensued about restricted accounts, vs operating budgets and accounts. Scott and Mark shared that they think that we need to have a budget and finance committee.

Greg Check gave an accounting of our current Account balances:

- The balance in our savings account is: \$119,280 as of mid-January.
- TDI is meant for certain activities
- GWCF is meant for certain activities
- Day Marc is for sprinkler/fire alarm
- 50th Anniversary funds are not earmarked.

TDI Grant- Storyteller

- Mitch has submitted his MOU and wants to move ahead with the TDI grant.
- Mark asked what are the deliverables and what is the timeline?
- David commented that he would be willing to grant latitude with regards to deliverable dates because we are running close to key grant dates.

David moved that we execute the MOU with the storyteller (Mitch) and deferred to the Executive Committee's full review. John Solaperto seconded David's motion. Discussion ensued, during which Rick Hendra asked about the additional staff or contracted people. He suggested that the executive Committee tackle these issues as well. More discussion ensued. All were in favor. No one opposed.

David asked Troy to contact the staff at the YMCA for use of Fuller Park. Troy agreed.

Gail asked about the Harold Steven's committee and work already scheduled and expenses that will be incurred. Mark asked what the expected cost of the Gallery is.

Dan Hunt, Gail's husband, thinks the material expense could be as much a 5,000 to 6,000. Total cost could be as much as 8,000.

John asked if we could approve \$7,500 for the project.

Scott asked Dan if \$5,000 would be enough to get started.

Mark asked if we have a source for the funds. Gail said that it logically should come from the Harold Stevens bequest as the gallery is on memory of Harold.

Uma agreed with the logic. Mark said he's OK with spending the \$7,500. His concern is that we have an actual source and ability to pay for it. John agreed with Mark's question/comment.

Scott moved that we allocate \$5,000 for the initial phase of building Harold Steven's Gallery and that the funds come from Harold Steven's bequest. John seconded the motion. All were in favor. No objections were made.

Meeting adjourned as proposed by Mark Babson, seconded by Scott Hayman. All were in favor.