

WCUW 91.3FM

910 MAIN STREET, WORCESTER MA 01610

WCUW Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 7:15 or 7:30 pm via ZOOM and in person

MINUTES

Attending: Executive Director, Troy Tyree, Ex-Officio, Uma Ananth, Mark Babson, Greg Check, Gail Hunt, Scott Hayman, John Solaperto, Uma Ananth, Nick Cozzens, Ed Arndt

Guests: Walter Henritze, Dan Hunt

The Meeting was called to order by Mark Babson at 7:00 pm

Approval of July Board meeting minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes from the July Board Meeting. John Solaperto moved to accept the minutes as corrected by Greg Check. Mark Babon seconded. All voted in favor of accepting the minutes as corrected.

Infrastructure

The group met last week. Greg will defer to Troy to update us later on the Fire Alarm System. General Inspection also will be covered in Troy's report. After the General Inspection we may need to do some electrical work.

The air conditioning unit, which has been closed in the back of the Pizza Place was discussed. No further action or decisions will be discussed until the next meeting. We now have a second set of estimates for the video security system. Greg wants to put together a comparison of the two estimates for review by the committee and then full board.

Discussions of an overall facelift of the entire building also occurred. Larry Haley volunteered to create some ideas. The Committee thought that we could communicate what we do and who we are more effectively by exploring and implementing a fully realized facelift. This is now a high priority of the committee.

The Mass Saves third party provided us with an estimated cost to lower our HVAC use/cost for the Front Room. \$2,923.00 upfront costs with estimated pay back in 30 months. After 30 months, the station would realize all energy savings/costs. The committee endorses this. Greg moved to spend the \$2,923 for the estimated energy savings upgrade. Questions ensued from Board. Greg will get answers to these questions, and, if satisfactory, move forward. Ed Arndt seconded the motion. Mark asked Greg about the longevity of the existing system before we add the new controller. The motion was approved with an amendment to have ACE review our system to see that it's worth adding the controller. Scott made the amendment. The amendment was seconded by UMA. The motion was approved as amended. All were in favor.

Savings Balances:

Mark then presented our Savings account balance, which includes the new gift from the DayMarc Foundation of \$25,000. The balance is currently \$88,971.96. A complete,

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itemized report was circulated by Scott to the entire board. The second award from DayMarc allows us to spend the money on repairs as well as capital.

Gallery Update

Gail and Dan reported that there hasn't been too much action on the Gallery Front. Dan has yet to start any more physical improvements that have been discussed, but they are up and coming. The current show goes on until the beginning of September. There have been some sales. Don Hartzman will be next to show.

Grants Update

Scott reported that the committee is focusing next on the Greater Worcester Operating Grant. We are focusing on operating grants as they are harder to get and much needed. We should hear about our request for operation from the Mass Cultural Council in October.

Executive Director Report

Fire alarm is installed. We need Cogswell to install a sensor in the system. Then we can have inspections for assembly license. Burn away tiles and signage are also ready for installation.

Main South in the Spotlight is in good shape. 15 Vendors, 3 bands scheduled, and the sound guy is secured. We have to rent toilets. The festival is outdoors so the weather will be a factor. Serena is also seeking out nonprofits to have a table at the event. John S asked Troy to reach out to Quinsigamond Community College. The radio show will start next week. This is all TDI.

Barry Sullivan has put together a Sounds of Scotia/WCUW 50th anniversary show at the Hibernian Cultural Center. Cantrip is the band. They are donating 40 \$25.00 tickets to WCUW to sell and keep the proceeds. Barry is taking the entire financial risk on the project. There was discussion about how we can market the sale of the 40 tickets on air, and the logistics of getting a ticket. John suggested talking to the underwriters to see if they would buy tickets. Troy said many of them are non-profits and they wouldn't likely want to pay. Much other discussion ensued. Troy pointed out that the Main South event is the next day. Troy then shared that there will be a Blues Benefit at the Fraternal Order of Eagles the week before the Main South event. This Blues Benefit will be a celebration of Jeff Adam's life. Jeff was an active member of the Community Radio and Blues Music Scene. The last Blues Benefit was where the connection was made with DayMarc Foundation.

John and Troy will be meeting tomorrow with UniBank's Will Kerrissey, Jr. This is a good opportunity to share WCUW's work and needs with the Bank.

Troy then wanted to thank Ed Arndt for the new Defibrillator. Ed said he has to complete a few more things to put it in use. Dan Hunt installed the device and was thanked, accordingly.

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Troy is seeking out volunteers to be a Day Captain. This would enable him to take a day off. He will create a training video on how to do this. He says it is generally easy. The Day Captain would put a show on remotely when a DJ can't do his/her show. Troy then reported that the checking account balance is \$7,224. After Bills are due there should be a balance of \$4,024.

By-Law Change- update

Scott moved to change next Board Meeting to Aug. 27th to combine with a Special Meeting to discuss and vote on a change to the By-Laws, and to send Special Meeting Notice out by mail no later than July 22nd, send via email, post on website, Facebook, and spots on-air. John moved to approve Scott's proposal and Gail seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Special Meeting will be hybrid (zoom and in person). All were in favor. **See attached draft of the By-Law change proposed by Scott.** This Bylaw change will be the only subject of the Special Meeting. Discussion then ensued about prospecting for new Board Members, including spots on the radio. Mark said he would write-up a spot and then get two or three of us to participate in the spot.

New Business

Capitalization Policy:

Greg proposed that expenses of \$2,000 and over are to be capitalized. This does not preclude capitalizing smaller expenses if those expenses are for a project which, in total, is \$2,000 or more. At the treasurer's discretion, this policy can be waived, but the board must affirm the waiver.

We could eventually have an accounting handbook for the station, but this is simply a written policy to go by.

Greg moved to approve the Capitalization Policy and Scott seconded it. Uma asked why we don't have more written policies. Discussion ensued on this. Given that we've been small and under the radar we haven't been forced to do this. As we get bigger, we have to develop more written policies. All were in favor.

Mark wanted to suggest that, when we go to shows like the Blues Benefit, we should wear our WCUW T-Shirts. The TDI folks are coming to visit on July 27th. They want a thorough update on our activities as well.

Meeting was adjourned by Mark Babson.

Attachment: Special Notice: Proposed Bylaw Change.