

Minutes, WCUW Board of Director's Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 7:00 pm via Zoom

Attending: Mark Babson, Ed Arndt, Lee Griffin, Ann Souza, Uma Ananth, Greg Check, Scott Hayman, Gail Hunt, Robin Scott, Carri Sarrinen John Solaperto, Troy Tyree, Laura Lenis and Steve Blake. Guests included Walter Henritz, and Dan Hunt

Review and approve Minutes of April 2026 Board Meeting.

The Minutes of the April Board Meeting were reviewed and approved without corrections. Lee moved to approve and Ed seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Executive Committee Report- Scott Hayman. The executive committee primarily discussed the by-law changes as shared by Robin Scott and were discussed later in the meeting. The balance of the executive committee discussion included the Out to Lunch coordination, which was also on the agenda for later in the meeting.

Savings Account Update for April activities: Greg Check, 5 minutes Greg presented the savings report showing a balance of \$53,177.63 as of May 10th, with the main expense being \$1,268 paid to an electrician for transmitter tower work.

WCUW Restricted Account (15004247914523)									
Summary as of 5/17/26									
Date	Amount (TDI)	Amount (Bequest)	Amount (GWCF)	Amount (Daymarc)	Amount (Fidelity)	Amount (ARPA)	Amount (Vegan Nation)	Amount Stoddard	total Account
beginning balance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00
statement period end 9/30/23	32,004.73								32,004.73
statement period end 10/31/23	32,007.23	74,808.77							106,816.00
statement period end 11/30/23	32,010.34	68,737.16	6,160.60						106,908.10
statement period end 12/31/23	32,013.65	61,535.97	6,161.24						99,710.86
statement period end 1/31/24	29,516.73	56,139.02	5,576.82	20,002.09	5,000.52				116,235.18
statement period end 2/29/24	29,519.67	49,338.71	5,577.38	20,004.08	5,001.02				109,440.86
statement period end 3/29/24	28,722.72	48,178.84	5,577.97	12,088.36	5,001.55				99,569.44
statement period end 4/30/24	26,925.47	44,646.12	5,578.54	12,089.59	2,501.81				91,741.53
statement period end 5/31/24	26,928.54	35,484.25	5,579.18	4,173.07	0.00				72,165.04
statement period end 6/30/24	25,331.05	35,487.76	4,979.67	4,173.48	0.00				69,971.96
statement period end 7/31/24	19,332.95	35,491.24	4,980.16	29,176.35	0.00				88,980.70
statement period end 8/31/24	16,877.58	35,494.87	4,980.67	29,179.34	0.00				86,532.46
statement period end 9/30/24	16,879.45	25,101.44	4,981.22	21,181.69	0.00				68,143.80
statement period end 10/31/24	11,240.10	25,054.18	4,981.76	21,184.01	0.00				62,460.05
statement period end 11/30/24	9,471.39	24,830.73	4,382.21	20,331.10	0.00				59,015.43
statement period end 12/31/24	9,471.39	24,830.73	4,382.21	20,331.10	0.00				59,015.43
statement period end 1/31/25	9,173.11	22,191.95	4,383.02	26,610.09	0.00	85,632.28			147,990.45
statement period end 2/28/25	9,173.95	22,043.28	4,383.42	25,812.46	0.00	85,640.13	1,000.09		148,053.33
statement period end 3/31/25	9,175.55	20,438.84	4,384.18	23,811.65	0.00	25,644.59	1,000.26		84,455.07
statement period end 4/30/25	9,176.49	20,440.94	4,384.63	18,647.36	0.00	25,647.23	1,000.36		79,297.01
statement period end 5/30/25	5,177.04	15,937.42	3,785.04	18,042.62	0.00	25,649.97	1,000.47		69,592.56
statement period end 6/30/25	0.55	15,939.01	3,785.42	17,889.54	0.00	25,652.52	1,000.57		64,267.61
statement period end 7/31/25	0.00	15,940.63	3,785.81	17,891.91	0.00	25,655.14	1,000.67		64,274.16
statement period end 8/31/25	0.00	15,942.27	3,786.20	16,534.71	0.00	25,657.79	1,000.77		62,921.74
statement period end 9/30/25	0.00	15,943.88	3,786.58	11,477.67	0.00	25,660.39	1,000.87		57,869.39
statement period end 10/31/25	0.00	15,945.37	3,786.93	10,277.49	0.00	25,662.79	1,000.96	35,003.29	91,676.83
statement period end 11/28/25	0.00	15,947.21	1,291.08	9,778.64	0.00	25,665.74	471.41	10,947.55	64,101.63
statement period end 12/31/25	0.00	15,948.86	0.00	8,287.13	0.00	25,668.41	471.46	10,948.69	61,324.55
statement period end 1/31/26	0.00	15,950.53	0.00	7,932.96	0.00	25,671.10	471.51	8,104.04	58,130.14
statement period end 2/28/26	0.00	15,952.01	500.05	6,195.86	0.00	25,673.48	471.55	8,104.79	56,897.74
statement period end 3/31/26	0.00	14,345.50	500.10	5,571.52	0.00	25,676.16	471.60	8,105.63	54,670.51
statement period end 4/30/26	0.00	14,346.96	500.15	5,342.04	0.00	25,678.76	471.65	6,838.07	53,177.63

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Infrastructure Report – Greg Check

Greg provided highlights from the infrastructure meeting, including updates on HVAC needs, bathroom vent replacement, and an operational outdoor electronic marquee sign. The group decided to postpone decisions on roof testing and bathroom renovations until after the grant process and agreement with Mass Development and the Mass Cultural Commission is completed.

Front Room Update for April Activities, John Solaperto and Gail Hunt, 5 Minutes

Gail reported that the Front Room earned net proceeds of \$2,524 in April including \$1,185 from FrontRoom concerts, record sales, and Cinema Worcester. These numbers are net proceeds after expenses. Year to date these activity net proceeds are \$2,503. more than last year's year to date proceeds. She reported that upcoming events such as the Bob Dylan concerts and the Johnny Bluehorn concerts are very promising. Also, in April there was a life celebration ceremony in the FrontRoom and a Bike to Work event. More than five hundred people visited WCUW throughout the month. In May more than four hundred people have already visited WCUW. Finally, Gail reported that there were three young bands who played on Sunday night with over seventy in attendance and it was awesome. One of the band members said we should utilize Tik Toc in addition to Instagram, etc. The rough total of the net income for the year is about \$12,000 as of the end of April.

SWOT committee update:

Mark discussed SWOT's focus on programming strategy, proposing the formation of a programming committee and plans to gather information about programmers and listeners through individual outreach and a listener survey. The team also discussed becoming a premium media partner with the City of Worcester for summer activities, which will include promos, interviews, and increased community visibility.

Proposed By-Laws Changes:

The board discussed proposed bylaws changes focused on term limits, membership qualifications, and a supermajority requirement for selling the building. Robert explained that the changes were kept simple to address urgent needs while allowing for future modifications and emphasized the importance of maintaining organizational freedom. Greg raised concerns about board control over programming, suggesting a community advisory committee instead, which Robert agreed was important to address in future provisions. The board agreed to review the document with comments and aim to approve the changes at the next meeting to call for a special membership meeting in September.

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Membership and Fundraising Committee Report – Carrie, 5 Minutes

Carrie discussed ongoing projects including underwriting research, which is being led by Peter as an intern with a mid-June deadline to prepare for summer events starting in July. The Spring Fund Drive was reported to have underperformed with only one gift received from 124 targeted contacts, leading to a final email appeal that had not yet generated results. The team is planning to participate in various outdoor events including a Brussels Street Farmers Market series on Sundays from June to October, though specific dates are still pending confirmation.

The group discussed the need to better organize fundraising activities, distinguishing between membership fees, donations, and sales revenue streams. Carrie emphasized that fundraising was happening across multiple committees rather than being centralized, while Robert clarified that all income should be treated as donations under tax law. The discussion concluded with Mark suggesting that a small committee of 2-3 people should be formed to define and organize the different income streams and their proper handling.

The group discussed the need to better differentiate between memberships and donations in their financial tracking systems. Steve explained that while QuickBooks can categorize different income streams, membership and donations are currently combined in the system, making it difficult to track membership-specific revenue. The committee agreed to split the membership and fundraising committees, with the membership committee now focusing exclusively on membership rather than combining membership and fundraising activities. Carrie committed to revising the committee charter to reflect this change and noted that the SWOT team would take over responsibility for fundraising management.

Carrie presented preliminary survey data from a community survey targeting non-member listeners of the station. The survey revealed that 40% of respondents discovered the station through scanning the dial or recommendations, with 45% having been with the station for over 20 years. Key findings included requests for more programming in Vietnamese, African American, North African, and Asian communities, as well as increased news programming. The team agreed to continue collecting survey data through the end of the month, with Steve tasked to create promotional content to drive more responses, and Carrie to provide copy for the promos by the following day. Carrie emphasized that the survey is preliminary and final results and more data and review are forthcoming.

Report by Steve Blake, General Manager's Report

Steve covered several updates and ongoing projects at WCUW. He provided a comprehensive report on transmitter work, computer maintenance, and production room upgrades, including plans to use both production rooms for on-air broadcasts. Steve also discussed updating the volunteer manual, with Lee Griffin and Steve working to restructure it into separate policy and technical information sections.

Lease Update:

Ed shared, on behalf of Scott, an update about the lease for a new restaurant, which was approved to move forward with a \$2,300 monthly rent starting in June.

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New and other business

The board also discussed community outreach efforts, including plans for presence at the Brussels Street Market, and addressed the need for additional volunteers to help with these events. John mentioned an upcoming meeting about obtaining a crosswalk near the station, emphasizing the safety concerns for the over five hundred people who use the building. Ed reported that he has a phone call coming up with Tanya Romero.

The Meeting was adjourned.