

DRAFT MINUTES
WORT Board of Directors
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 20th, 2019 | 7:00 PM
Vinyl Library, Madison
Draft Minutes

Directors: David Devereaux-Weber (President), Stuart Levitan (Vice-President), Chali Pittman (Secretary), Martin Kehrein (Treasurer), Jerry Chernow, Doug Holtz (Staff Representative), Katherine Hoveland, Paul Novak, Eric Finch, Gilman Halsted

Directors absent: Kurt Kobelt

Others present: None

Meeting was called to order at 7pm, and the agenda adopted without objection. No communications from the public, but Dave relayed a brief discussion with a volunteer. The January 2019 minutes were **approved unanimously** without abstention.

Board discussed the **Treasurer's Report** from Marty Kehrein and the **Finance Committee Report**. Note that part of that report was a recommendation to formally change our official Quickbooks contact from Jerry Chernow/Dan Lippett to Suzanne Gernandt, WORT's new bookkeeper.

The Finance Committee report also contained within it a recommendation to explore finding a pro bono attorney for legal advice. For years, we have relied on Sally Stix for legal advice, but she has retired and we have begun paying her. The Finance Committee recommended that the board consider other options. Would it be a conflict of interest for a board member to offer legal advice as an attorney? Stu says it would be a bad idea. Eric agrees, particularly if it's a legal case involving the board. And, "we may not be the best attorneys" to offer legal advice. Eric recommended the UW Law School's student attorneys for pro bono legal advice. Stu and Gil ask: What kinds of legal things would this person be helping with? Does it make sense to have one pro bono attorney? Stu says it makes more sense to have an attorney of record on retainer at a reduced rate, rather than having a pro bono attorney handle undefined issues for free. That seemed to be the consensus of the board. Marty will take that discussion back to the Finance Committee.

Stu moved to accept the reports and Eric seconded. **The Finance Committee Report and the Treasurer's Report were unanimously accepted.**

The Board heard an update from the Tech Hiring Committee on its progress. The second candidate had asked for a higher salary than the staff labor contract allowed, but the staff was unanimous in having a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to allow that to happen. Unfortunately, that candidate backed out hours before this meeting, so we are back to square one with the other candidates. **Eric moved** for an email vote to decide on the recommendation of the Tech Hiring Committee before next month's meeting, as long as it did not also involve another MOU and stays within the staff contract pay range, and **Gil seconded. All in favor.**

The Board accepted the Programming Committee Report. Chali moved, Kathy seconded, to approve Kayla Kush as the permanent host of the Saturday 10pm-12pm slot, passed unanimously. Lots of praise for Kayla Kush's show.

The board accepted the report from the **Bylaws Committee Report**, which has been working on policy for detailed volunteer intake and background checks. Committee thought it had a good draft, staff made substantial revisions, committee made revisions to those revisions, but the staff has not had a chance to look at them. In deference to the need to have something in place as soon as possible, the committee agreed to advance the staff versions for now. March 1st is the effective date.

Note that there are some important concepts in these policies, particularly a firm delineation of who is and is not a volunteer. If you are here for an hour a week, you are a volunteer, and we need you to go through the volunteer process and to have you on file. There was a long, intricate discussion about the background check policies, and general disagreement about whose job it is to handle volunteers. **Gil moved, Chali seconded, to adopt the Policy and Bylaw recommendations to adopt the staff background check version with the expectation that it will see revisions at the upcoming PBC committee meeting. Kathy is a nay, with the rest in favor.** Kathy had reservations that staff collective should have better, clearer contact with current volunteers about who is affected by this policy.

The report from the **Community Advisory Board** was accepted.

The board accepted the staff report from Doug Holtz, the **Business and Events Director**. It had a request that those with a large social media or email presence push The Big Share from the Community Shares of Wisconsin on March 5th. New date for Chiliocracy ("political mockery served in crockery") is April 7th, the Sunday after the spring election.

The board accepted the staff report from Susan Sheldon, the **Listener-Sponsor Development Director**. No board action requested, but she noted that the pledge drive runs from Monday, February 25th to March 10th. She also noted that the copier lease is coming to its end, and exploring possibilities for a service contract there. Jerry noted from his experience working in a copy shop that after five years copiers start to go downhill.

The board accepted the staff report from Sybil Augustine, the **Music Director**. No board action requested.

The board accepted the staff report from the **Volunteer Outreach Director**. The report requested clarification on who is currently on the Elections Committee. According to the Board of Directors Policy on Committees, "The Election Committee shall consist of three persons, including the Secretary and one staff member." As requested by the Secretary, **a motion to [redefine the composition of the Elections Committee](#) to the following: "The Elections Committee shall consist of one or more Board members and one or more staff members as appointed by the Board President." All in favor, none opposed.**

The board did not receive a report from Aaron Scholz, **Promo and Music Assistant**, nor did it receive one in January.

The board did not receive a February report from Molly Stentz, **News/Talk/Public Affairs Director**, nor did it receive one in January.

Marty moved to adjourn, **motion seconded** by Kathy.

Notes prepared by Chali Pittman, February/March 2019. Revisions? → chali@wortfm.org

The WORT Board of Directors meets every 3rd Wednesday of each month. Meetings are open to the WORT community and the public. Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings: March 20, 2019; April 17, 2019; May 15, 2019, June 19, 2019 2019 ANNUAL