



WYSO BOARD MINUTES

November 18, 2009

WYSO Pledge Room

Yellow Springs, Ohio

Members present: Heather Martin, Karen Meade, Seth Gordon, Gary Honnert, Evan Scott, Don Hayashi, Tom Faecke and Glenn Watts

Members absent: Nancy Nash, Karl Colón, Bonnie Parish, and Mel Marsh.

Staff present: Neenah Ellis

Heather called the meeting to order at 8:42 AM. She welcomed new member Karen Meade to Karen's first meeting and expressed appreciation for Karen's willingness to serve. Karen is a long-time listener and supporter.

Minutes. The Minutes of the meeting of October 21, 2009 were not circulated prior to the meeting. Karl will be asked to E-mail the Minutes to the Board members so that the Minutes can be considered at the next meeting.

Extended Meetings. Heather reminded everyone that during the September 24, 2009 Strategic Planning Meeting we agreed to hold longer meetings. In this way we can operate without the need for extensive committee meetings. The consensus is that we will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month, but beginning in 2010 we will start the meetings 30 minutes earlier. Next year, meetings will run from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM. We will continue to alternate meeting locations between Yellow Springs and Dayton.

Existing Audience Data. Neenah said that she has provided some data to Karl for his review, but she doesn't know where he is on the project. The goal is to have a better understanding of our membership so that we can better meet their needs. The data on current members should also help us to understand how to encourage other listeners to become members.

Gathering of Staff and Volunteers. Neenah said that we need an opportunity to have the Board meet the volunteers and staff and to have them meet each other. Dave Hussong has been on WYSO for 26 years and does a magnificent job. He, and other long-time hosts, should be honored for their exceptional dedication and service. Tuesday, January 12, 2010 has been tentatively set for the event. Karen and Glenn will work on the logistics. Don suggested that the January meeting be held prior to the start of the gathering so that all Board members would be present before the volunteers and staff arrive.

Financials. Neenah distributed a schedule showing the budget and actual revenue and expenses for the period July 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009. Both actual revenue and expenses are below the budgeted amounts, but because expenses are down more, the station has a positive position of \$36,697 for the period. This period is only a third of the current fiscal year and continued effort will be needed to make sure that the budget stays in balance.

University Meeting Report. Neenah reported that she attended the Seattle meeting of the Antioch University Board of Governors where she presented the strategic plan for the station. The single most significant element was finding a new home for the station. Tom noted that Neenah made an exceptional presentation and that the strategic plan was well received by the Board.

Tom reported that the Sontag-Fels Building where WYSO is located is now owned by the College, but that the University has a five-year lease (through September 3, 2014) for the space being used by the station. In the event that the lessor (Antioch College Continuation Corporation) determines that major capital improvements are required, it may terminate the lease sooner. Under the terms of the lease, the University is responsible for the cleaning, maintenance and utility costs associated with WYSO's space.

A resolution passed by the Antioch Board of Governors has directed the Vice Chancellor to pursue the feasibility of a new location for the station, including an option to construct a new facility, and to report the results to the Board of Governors when the study is completed. Tom believes that the study will be ready for presentation to the Board of Governors in June 2010 when the Board will meet in Yellow Springs. Possible sites are being considered for the station and Jim Stitt, the station's engineer, has been developing technical requirements to be included in the proposal.

Funding for a new site needs to be developed, but there are several opportunities. There are lease as well as construction options that need to be explored. There are also opportunities to cooperate with other organizations, within the University and with external organizations, and these also need consideration.

Seth reminded the WYSO Board that it may be possible to build or renovate space using volunteers. Among our listeners are engineers and architects, craft people and others who can contribute material and labor. This would not be the easy route, but it could allow WYSO to obtain new space without taking on major debt.

Neenah said that it is important that we get started on defining the scope of the project so that we know what we need to do next. Some preliminary work has been done with Miller-Valentine to define space needs.

The future location of the station is a major consideration for the feasibility study. There are likely to be financial incentives to relocate outside of Yellow Springs, but there would be a loss of identity if the station moves outside of the Village. Such a move could trigger a major controversy that could cause a significant loss of members. These, and

other factors, will need to be considered to determine what is best for the future of the station.

Next Meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 8:30 AM in Room B101 of Antioch University McGregor.

The Agenda will include approval of the Minutes of the meetings of October 21, 2009 and November 11, 2009, the status of the gathering of volunteers and staff, planning for the annual Silent Auction, the analysis of existing audience data, and an update on the priorities of the strategic plan. Additional agenda topics should be E-mailed to the Chair not later than the Friday before the meeting. These can be things that you want to present or things that you would like to have presented or discussed. The expected outcome (e.g., a resolution) and the estimated time that the discussion will require should be provided along with the topic.

Adjournment. Moved by Glenn, seconded by Karen, to adjourn. The vote to approve was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Glenn Watts, Secretary