

## KSPS Community Advisory Board Minutes – 4/13/17

**Members attending in person:** Shaun Higgins (Chair), Katy Durning (Vice-Chair), Emily Geddes (Secretary), Becka Shelley, Terrie Ashby-Scott, Consuelo Larrabee

**Members attending by phone:** Bob Morrison

**Members absent:** Marvo Reguindin

**KSPS staff attending:** Gary Stokes (General Manager), Cary Balzer (Program Director)

**Public attendees:** None

### Opening Business

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm.

The minutes from the 3/9/17 meeting were approved (motion: Terrie, second: Consuelo). Emily will forward them to Dawn to be posted on the KSPS website, in compliance with Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) requirements, and to Linda Finney, Secretary of the Friends of KSPS board, in compliance with the bylaws.

### General Manager Report

Paula Kerger, the president of PBS, will arrive in Spokane next Thursday, April 20. She will attend the dinner for governing board members and CAB members that evening. On Friday, she will hold a meeting with station staff and then is scheduled for interviews with local media including the Spokesman-Review, KPBX, and the Journal of Business. Friday afternoon she is attending an event with local college students at Eastern Washington University. Friday evening is the event at the Lincoln Center, and she leaves Saturday morning.

There is no new news regarding federal funding. Congress is currently in recess and it will likely be May before a budget is released. A continuing resolution is a strong possibility.

The FCC just released the final results of the spectrum auction.

BroadStream went live last night at 6:00 p.m. and KSPS is now fully on BroadStream. Gary recognized the hard work of many people went into this effort.

Gary reported that he has finished the job description for the Education Coordinator position and has been approach by a couple of organizations interested in helping to fund the position.

Recent discussions with Phil Tyler of the Spokane NAACP have centered on the Peaceful Communities Roundtable and figuring out a framework for KSPS to join in with these events. An outgrowth of recent vandalism and other troubling events, the vision is to bring people with different viewpoints together. Gary mentioned a semi-regularly-scheduled televised program is a possibility.

The PBS annual meeting is in May; both Gary and Cary will attend. This event provides a preview of upcoming programming.

The Kratts Brothers will be in Spokane for a performance on September 24 at 1:00 p.m.

### Program Manager Report

Cary commented that it's been a good month for KSPS and public television.

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KSPS is in the process of researching for a local documentary on homelessness. There is no projected airdate as of yet, though it will likely air in the fall of 2017. There has been interest from Empire Health Foundation to sponsor a town hall to accompany the program.

The series *The Great War* wrapped up this week. Cary received numerous inquiries from Canada for Canadian-specific programming on World War I, which he has been unable to obtain. He is still hoping to acquire Canadian content and will continue to work on that.

The Independent Lens program *Newtown* about the Sandy Hook shooting aired. It is a difficult and emotional piece that included first person accounts of family members and first responders. Cary noted we should be proud of public television for producing such important programming.

Noteworthy upcoming programming for the fall of 2017 includes:

- The new Ken Burns series *The Vietnam War*, which will begin airing in September.
- Season 3 of *Poldark* on *Masterpiece*
- Season 4 of *Finding Your Roots*
- A new series called *Food Flirts*, with six 30-minute episodes
- A special called *Beyond a Year in Space* that looks at the effects of his time in space on astronaut Scott Kelly a year later.
- A special on the Chinese Exclusion Act by Rick Burns (older brother of Ken)

Cary asked about interest in programming recognizing the centennial of the Russian Revolution and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Hockey League, as well as *The Prisoner*, a 17-part series that aired in the 1960s. CAB members expressed interest in all of these topics.

Please see the attached programming notes for additional details.

### **Other Discussion**

Consuelo described a program called *Nick on the Rocks*, hosted by geologist Nick Zentner, which explains the geology of various areas of Washington in several short episodes. Gary and Cary are familiar with the show and agreed that the production values were good.

Continuing the discussion about holding the October 2017 CAB meeting off-site in order to comply with our bylaws, Becka reported that her contact suggested the North Spokane County Library as a better location as it is being remodeled and will have better technological capabilities. It was motioned by Terrie and seconded by Becka that the meeting will be held October 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the North Spokane County Library. Becka will follow up with her contact to secure the meeting room, and ask about capacity and streaming abilities. The meeting will be publicized through *Prevue*, on-air spots, and social media. It was suggested that, due to the time of the meeting, refreshments will be expected.

Becka and Emily reported being unable to find the CAB application online. Gary and Cary will look into this.

Shaun attended the Friends of KSPS board meeting on March 23 to report on the CAB's activities.

The next CAB meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

**Action items**

*Emily:*

- Forward approved February minutes to Dawn and Linda.

*Becka:*

- Contact Spokane County Library system regarding meeting in October.

*All CAB members:*

- Contact your elected officials regarding the possible elimination of funding for the CPB;
- Consider what kind of locally created programming would be beneficial to the community;
- Continue gathering feedback on programming from friends, family, community members;
- Continue recruiting new applicants.