

**Minutes of WJFF Community Advisory Board**  
**Meeting July 14, 2022** virtually via zoom

**Present:** Joseph Abraham, Kalika Stern, Peter Madden, Tasa Faronii-Butler, Gloria Simms, Samantha Mango, Dick Riseling, Racquel Cortes-Grimila, Heiley Flores

**Absent:** Kenneth Luck, Colette Ballew, Aaron Hicklin

**Meeting** called to order at 6:00pm by Joseph Abraham, President

**Motion to approve the minutes** from last meeting made by Racquel Cortes-Grimila and seconded by Heiley Flores. Motion carried.

Due to missing guest speaker the meeting went out of order from agenda, to switch should the speaker show up at any time, as follows:

**BOT Liaison Report:** Leila McCullough reported that the live broadcast has switched to Liberty 3 weeks prior without major disruptions. Station is aware of the dropping out sound and has been trying to get it rectified. The streaming does not do this, but the airwave transmission does. Offices are unpacked and occupied, the equipment has been causing some concern but will be fully functional soon, it is unpacked and in the studio ready for use by volunteers. Training dates have been set. There has been one open house helping launch the summer Fund Drive and there will be another one next weekend. The focus of programming has been education and so there have been some changes to schedule putting some programs on at a later time in the day. Everyday there has been a 2-3 hour block dedicated to education, positive feedback thus far. Three new board members were introduced at the last meeting. WJFF BOT focus right now is on August 17th Online Auction. Needed are services, things to offer for donations.

**Youth Task Force:** Tasa Faronii-Butler reported that no new progress has been made. She is a member of Liberty Partnership Program that is connected to SUNY of Orange County. She would like to see this happen in the local area, LPP to connect with SUNY of Sullivan County but has not been able to make that happen. It has had a huge impact on the program quality and helps connect high school students to the community college. This is something that WJFF would benefit directly from if the connection could be made in the local area.

**Spanish speakers outreach:** There was a bit of discussion of how to make connections to the Spanish speakers of the possible listening audience locally. Suggestions were: Cultural/Festival presence more prominent, making paper copies for WJFF booths at other events, and going to Farmer's Markets (Monticello/Liberty) where the SpSp community would be present. There was further discussion about how the SpSp programs that have been added were not locally produced. The closest one was La Voz in the Hudson Valley Region. The programs have been interesting but considered not far reaching into the local community as the hosts do not have a local following. The name Emma Torres came up again and it was once

again asked why she was not eligible to reapply for a spot on the schedule. All that is known on that subject was that there was a disagreement between the old manager and Emma, resulting in her dismissal. Many want to see her name cleared and do not understand why she is not given another chance. It is felt that to increase listeners of the SpSp community it would help to have a local community host with a following.

Tasa Faronii-Butler made a motion that CAB recommends that WJFF station actively seek local hosts for Spanish Speaking shows. Seconded by Racquel Cortes-Grimila. Motion carried.

**Future Guest Speakers:** It was discussed that since the Opioid Crisis has been a topic of concern that Wendy Brown or Megan Balligan (sp?) be invited to speak at a future CAB meeting.

**Topics to be aware of:** Bagel Fest - possible place to interact with SpSp community, August 19th Grahamsville Fair, Tasa Faronii-Butler has a book launching in August

With nothing further to discuss, and guest speaker Tim Bruno, General Manager of WJFF was unable to attend, the meeting was wrapped up. Joe Abraham thanked Gloria Simms for her record keeping during her tenure as a member of CAB as her second 3 year term has come to an end and she will no longer be eligible to attend meetings after this meeting. He then stated that he would be stepping down after the October meeting, ending his first 3 year term, due to a heavy schedule he must resign. Kenneth Luck, interim Vice Chair, will conduct the end of the year meeting and run elections for the 2023 term of CAB.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm**

**Next meeting Sept 15, 2022** - date changed due to scheduling issue

Respectfully submitted by Colette Ballew, Secretary