Minutes of the meeting of the
WJFF Radio Catskill Finance Committee
December 18, 2019 at 3:00pm
The Clair Inn & Café, 4053 NY-52, Youngsville, NY 12791
Minutes approved on Feb 18, 2020

Trustees Present:  Bill Fellenberg, Kirsten Foster, Kathy Geary, John Gordon (Chair), Angela Page
Thane Peterson
Trustees Absent:  none
Staff Present: Dan Rigney
Members of the public: Dick Riseling, Steve Davis, Midge Maroni

A quorum being present, John Gordon called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm.
Kathy Geary agreed to be the secretary for the meeting minutes, we are rotating this task.

Motion: To approve the minutes from Oct 22, 2019 Finance meeting
(Foster / Geary).
In favor: Bill Fellenberg, Kirsten Foster, Kathy Geary, John Gordon
Opposed: None
Abstained: Angela Page (absent from last meeting)

Old Business
Review of Profit and Loss statements as of 12-09-2019 (attached). More recent statement not available due to personal issues for our bookkeeper that have prevented her from work. Business Underwriting income is less than budgeted by $13K. Benefit expenses $8.6K higher than budgeted due to rental fees at Farm House in Callicoon Center.

The committee reviewed the 2020 budget as prepared by John Gordon (attached), showing estimates of $370K expenses and income. There are no expenses regarding the Liberty property in the budget.

Bill Fellenberg noted that his previous requests concerning the Liberty project, a critical path/schedule and estimated time required for each major phase of the build-out has not been addressed.

New Business
Capital budget will be separate from the operating budget in 2020. We will pursue local grants in Sullivan County. Finances need better planning in advance and should establish a time-line for the Liberty property. Plans for fund-raising benefits need to be made a year in advance.

Public Comments
Dick Riseling talked about staffing levels being too high with three employees.

Steve Davis asked about the status of the CPB Funding requirements and the station’s transition status for 2017, 2018 and 2019, if the $300k requirement has been met. He questioned how the $400K investment in the Liberty property can offer a satisfactory return on investment. He noted that we will face higher expenses in maintaining a larger square foot facility in Liberty.

Midge Maroni had five points she wanted to make. 1. The station has been running a deficit since 2013 based on her review of the 990’s forms. 2. Payroll represents 50% of total budget and is too
high, station needs a better climate for volunteers. 3. NYSCA grants should be pursued, approx. $5.
4. Food expenses of $3.6k for recent benefit event were too high. The BOT needs better oversight on expenses, checks written over a certain amount need to be approved. 5. DCOC needs to focus on volunteers, better fund-raising events.

**Motion:** To approve the 2020 Budget as submitted on Dec 18, 2019, pending revisions prior to Jan 13, 2020. (Foster / Geary).
In favor: Bill Fellenberg, Kirsten Foster, Kathy Geary, John Gordon
Opposed: None
Absent: Angela Page (left meeting at 3:40pm)

The next meeting of the Finance committee will be Jan 23, 2020 Wed at 3:30pm at the Clair in Youngsville, NY.

**Motion to adjourn.** (Gordon / Foster) All in favor. 4:25pm

Minutes Submitted by Kathy Geary