

The meeting was called to order on the Zoom platform by board president Rich Liebert. Board members present on Zoom, in addition to Rich Liebert, were Lonnie Hill, Joe Moll, Jason Olthoff, Thomas Risberg, Matthias Schalper, Diane Stinger. Guests present were Tim Hodges and Gabe Vasichek.

The minutes for the February meeting were not completed. It was agreed they would be emailed for approval.

Doug Wendt proposes a show for Monday Midday Music entitled Best of All Worlds, featuring music from around the world. Lonnie Hill will update the programming on the website. Native Son Rising will be no longer played. Lonnie moved to accept the proposal, Joe seconded, motion passed.

Rich reported \$13,686 in First Interstate Great Falls account, and \$36,202 in UM account after the first half of Broadcast Agreement payment was made.

Insurance was discussed. Rich stated the state requires a paid employee in order to get coverage for all volunteers. Rich will check with Patterson Insurance about a stand-alone policy for volunteers.

Volunteer Station Manager report from Gabe Vasichek: Gabe has done many local interviews and is receiving requests for more. Crimestoppers did an interview. Gabe feels KGPR has carried good local content. Time editing, show notes and back links have translated into better search results, he said. He noted the best days for recording interviews are Monday and Wednesday afternoons but other days can work. Jayson Olthoffs podcasts were discussed for airing. Gabe said he could work them in when possible, best if they could be edited to 15 minutes. Thomas asked about a regular time each week for podcasts, Jayson agreed, Gabe suggested a one hour flagship show and 15 minutes biweekly would be very doable. Interviewing a total of 80 nonprofits for 3-5 minute interviews was also mentioned.

It was suggested that such programming would grow listeners and thus sponsorships, increasing that revenue stream. Gabe noted he always does a "soft" reminder that people can donate directly to KGPR on the website. Three revenue streams were discussed: underwriters (sponsors), individual donors, and grants. Thomas suggested he could write a grant proposal to the Greater Montana Foundation.

For Pledge Week, March 28- April 3, Gabe said he is open to people coming into the studio. Joe noted he was listening to the very first broadcast KGPR made in 1984, a classical request night. It was agreed Joe would come into the studio on March 29 to talk with Gabe about the beginning of KGPR. Promotion during Pledge Week was discussed.

Rich noted he would like to make sure everyone who is on-air has signed a Broadcasting Policy paper.

Candidate forums were discussed, particularly school board candidates. Non partisanship and buy-in by all candidates was discussed. It was suggested Jayson do the interviews, and one question was proposed: Why should you be elected to the school board? Each candidate would be offered 5 minutes to answer. Joe moved and Matthias seconded to contact every candidate with the question: why do you want to run for school board? Jayson agreed he would give each candidate 5 minutes for that question and do a full interview with those who wished to do more. It was agreed the 5 minute interviews would air on April 12th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Diane Stinger, Secretary, Great Falls Public Radio Association