

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board President Rich Liebert at Alliance for Youth meeting room #4. Present were board members Lonnie Hill, Joseph Moll, Jayson Olthoff, and Thomas Risberg. Board member Diane Stinger was present on Zoom. Guests present in the room were Constance Moll and Chris Smyth. No guests were on Zoom. Rich called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He asked Chris Smyth to introduce himself. Chris came to Great Falls in 2003 and has worked in commercial radio since then. He finds KGPR “fresh”, also serving the community. Chris sees some possibilities for cooperative broadcasting between commercial stations in Great Falls and KGPR, perhaps including Lanni Klasner’s City Connections program, the Neighborhood Council programs, Lisa Schmidt’s Land of Grass. Thomas noted KGPR has grown from 0 to 13 underwriters since he joined the board. Underwriting was discussed, as well as a brief description for Chris of how KGPR works. Cooperation was further discussed.

The minutes from last meeting were not prepared for this meeting, they will be shared with the board by email.

Rich reviewed the financials. Current balance in the UM account is \$56,352.31, with the second installment of \$14,00 for the KUFM Broadcast Fee due to be withdrawn in July. Checking and savings at First Interstate in Great Falls are just over \$13,000. Rich reviewed expenses. Assuming all calculations of underwriting GFRA should have about \$45,000 at the end of 2022, projecting about \$5,000 per month income.

Sharing programs with commercial radio was once again discussed. Thomas stated “Land of Grass” should be syndicated. Chris commented it could possibly be run with Montana Farm Report, with Lisa’s permission.

Engineering Report, Rich will send virtually to all board members, as Greg sent it the previous week.

Technology: Lonnie Hill is doing the podcasts, needs the emails from Lisa Schmidt, needs added to the email list. Eric Peterson continues Horns A Plenty, will begin doing a 70’s show on alternate Fridays. Classic Rock. Land of Grass will be aired on Fridays. It was mentioned that with Lisa’s permission Land of Grass could be shared with KEIN.

Protocol for posting podcasts before and after Gabe’s participation was discussed. Everything that goes to kgpr@msu.edu gets posted by Gabe. Protocol for after Gabe leaves, perhaps in August, needs to be established. In addition to podcasts, weekly station schedules and program logs need to be done. Lonnie will reach out to Gabe for his schedule so the board can pick up when needed. Board members would like to be trained to record in the studio. At this point no board member knows how to “run the board” during broadcast. Greg Muir told Rich we don’t have to do “streaming reports”. That will be investigated. Diane reviewed the necessary tasks in the office: preparing program logs, preparing and printing a weekly schedule, crafting PSA’s and maintaining a schedule of PSA’s. In addition to those tasks Gabe records programs, maintains levels during recording, makes suggestions, and edits after recording. Thomas suggested board members take on the duties for two month periods, and people learn to record each other’s shows and all learn to edit. It was agreed to determine Gabe’s precise schedule for transitioning to Missoula job. A stand alone work session with Gabe will be scheduled. It was suggested we meet in the studio in July in lieu of a board meeting, pending Gabe’s availability. It was then noted that Gabe directly uploads the recordings for podcast and writes show notes for each one. Lonnie suggested if we get the green light to share any local programs with KEIN we share them from the podcasts. WAV versus MP3 formats were discussed.

Website update was discussed. Lonnie Hill said he would update the schedule on the website. The schedule was reviewed. It was noted there is an hour every other week for local content. Joe suggested a place to list local artists, it was noted that would be a labor and time intensive task. Thomas noted the Chamber of Commerce website Visit Great Falls is making an attempt to be the Hot Ticket replacement. Jayson noted it’s content is dependent on whether the event is something that helps businesses, there is still no actual replacement for the Hot Ticket.

The remainder agenda items were not discussed. Rich asked that everyone consider them, think about ideas for them prior to the next meeting. Rich noted he is working on getting Philip Aaberg to do a concert in early December. . Rich asked Lonnie Hill to get City Connections over to Chris. Rich will check with Lisa Schmidt about sharing her show. The next meeting will be adjusted to Gabe’s schedule and availability. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.