

Draft Minutes
Regular Pacifica National Board OPEN
Session Teleconference Meeting
Thursday, April 15, 2021, 7:30 pm
ET All times are Eastern Time
(meeting notice appended to the end of this
agenda)

Directors:

Chris Cory, KPFA, Listener – p
Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, WPFW, Listener – p
Lynden Foley, KPFT, Listener – p
Jose S Gutierrez, Jr, KAOS, Affiliate
Julie Hewitt, WPFW, Listener – p
Sabrina Jacobs, KPFA, Staff – p
Wally James, KPFT, Staff – p
DeWayne Lark, KPFT, Listener – p
Ali Lexa, KPFK, Staff – p
Thomas O’Rourke, WPFW, Listener – p
Jim Osborne, KPFK, Listener
Ron Pinchback, WPFW, Staff – p
Ralph Poynter, WBAI, Listener – p
Sandra Rawline, KPFT, Listener, Vice-Chair – p
Lawrence Reyes, KPFK, Listener – p
Shawn Rhodes, WBAI, Staff – p
James Sagurton, WBAI, Listener – p
Alex Steinberg, WBAI, Listener – p
Elizabeth von Gunten, KPFK, Listener – p
Tom Voorhees, KPFA, Listener - p

Others:

Lydia Brazon, Interim Executive Director - p
Anita Sims, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Polina Vasiliev, PNB Secretary – p
Arthur Schwartz, Pacifica Counsel – p
John Tatum, Parliamentarian – p
Marianne Edain, 2021 Recording Secretary p

1. Preliminary items 5 min.

The meeting was called to order at 7:37

A. Roll Call

B. Excused Absences – Anita Sims

C. Identify Timekeepers

Lawrence Reyes– people

James Sagurton - items

D. Announcements

E. Adjourn to closed session to discuss time sensitive item.

7:40

We will resume open session at 8:30 PM ET.

The open session resumed at 8:57 pm

2. Agenda approval 5 min. approved as presented

3. Approve Minutes of the Open Session of April 1 3 min.
The minutes of the April 1 session were approved as presented.

4. There was an objection to agenda item 6.b (WBAI LSB re bylaw amendments)
Jim Osborne moved and Lynden Foley seconded removal of item 6.b from the agenda.
Chris Cory, Lynden Foley, Wally James, Jim Osborne, and Sandra Rawline voted yes.
Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, Heather Gray, Julie Hewitt, DeWayne Lark, Thomas O'Rourke, Ron Pinchback, Ralph Poynter, Lawrence Reyes, Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Elizabeth von Gunten, Tom Voorhees, and Alex Steinberg voted no.
Sabrina Jacobs, Ali Lexa, and Andrea Turner abstained.
There were 5 yes votes, 13 no votes, and 3 abstentions. The motion failed.

The agenda was approved as presented.

5. There was a long and detailed report from National Elections Supervisor Rene Penalosa.

6. Debate on proposed bylaws amendment and vote (90 minutes)
After debate, the motion to adopt the proposed New Day Pacifica amendments to the bylaws was voted. The motion is attached as Appendix A.

Voting yes were: Lynden Foley, Wally James, Jim Osborne, and Sandra Rawline
Voting no were : Chris Cory, Vanessa Dixon-Briggs, Heather Gray, Julie Hewitt, Sabrina Jacobs, DeWayne Lark, Thomas O'Rourke, Ron Pinchback, Ralph Poynter, Lawrence Reyes, Shawn Rhodes, James Sagurton, Andrea Turner, Elizabeth von Gunten, Tom Voorhees, and Alex Steinberg.
Abstaining was Ali Lexa

There being 4 yes votes, 16 no votes, and 1 abstention, the motion failed 11:14

5. Committee Reports – Relating to Bylaws amendments only 20 mins

a) Governance Committee 5 minutes

Chair pro-tem Lawrence Reyes reported that there will be an election 4-29-21 relating to bylaw amendments. 3 members of the Governance Committee support the amendments, 9 members oppose. While they did not pass a resolution, they did express their concerns and this was the Sense of the Body.

b) WBAI Local Station Board 15 minutes- James or Ralph report
James Sagurton reported that they are functioning as a committee of the National Board. The title of their resolution is: Reject 2021 proposed changes in PNB bylaws. He reads the resolution, which is attached as Appendix B. The resolution passed unanimously.

Ron Pinchback reported that WPFW voted unanimously to reject the NDP referendum.
11:21

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25

Appendix A

Shall the Pacifica National Board approve the rewrite of the Pacifica Bylaws known as “New Day Pacifica”?

(All 58 pages of the proposed bylaws can be viewed here:)

<https://elections.pacifica.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Proposed-New-Day-Pacifica-Bylaws.pdf>

Appendix B

Reject the 2021 Proposed Changes in the Pacifica Bylaws:

Whereas, WBAI and the other four Pacifica stations are listener-funded, community radio stations that rely to survive on their ties with the communities they serve *Whereas*, WBAI seeks to both deepen and to strengthen its links with the listener-area it serves, and

Whereas, a vital component in WBAI's links with the communities it serves is its elected Local Station Board, whose members are put forth from and elected by the WBAI broadcast community through a membership vote, and

Whereas, the current Pacifica Bylaws in the *Specific Powers and Duties* of the Local Station Boards define and mandate specific ways in which the elected Local Station Boards hold the Management of the station accountable to the Board, listeners and Staff who elected it, and

Whereas, all these *Powers and Duties* would be eliminated by these proposed Bylaws changes, and the locally-elected Local Station Board would be totally abolished, and

Whereas, the current Pacifica National Board that governs Pacifica at the national level that is now democratically elected by the Local Station Board at each station would be totally eliminated and replaced by a national board of 15 members, with only one director elected from each station, and

Whereas, the body called the "Local Station Board" would be stripped of its governance authority and have no powers or say at all over our station WBAI, its programming, policies, or any related issues,

Whereas, this would be the death of WBAI as we know it and we could never get it back again,

Be it Resolved that:

The WBAI Local Station Board urges all members of the Pacifica National Board to vote No! on any motion or proposal to pass the Pacifica Bylaws changes being advanced by New Day Pacifica.

