

NDC Meeting 08/24/20

Agenda

<http://kzfr.org/pages/PublicCommentForm>

- 1) Introductory paragraph for the NDC
- 2) suggestions for help from public affairs programmers
- 3) process order for NDC development; open meetings and additional members

Minutes

Present: Anna Kastner, Bobbi Tryon, Leah McKean, Grant Parks, Mercedes Macías, Paul O'Rourke-Babb, Ray Laager, Rob Davidson, Steve Scarborough

Paul reported on PC meeting that Bobbi, Paul, Mercedes, and Courtney Farrell attended. See PC minutes. Paul explained why conversations regarding the creation of a News Department vs a single program are not in the purview of the PC. Jake Sprecher felt relieved that the Matrix proposal was only a suggestion from the NDC and that we want to work together. He had suggestions for a Matrix proposal that could give us lots of news spots and preserve traditions we've kept at the station. The next step is a full Board discussion on the Matrix proposal. PC member Chris Nelson and Paul had exchanged emails regarding her joining the NDC. She decided against joining but had lots of interest in the ongoing work toward developing more news and public affairs. She offered to write a guide for interviews. Ray created an interview template already which he has shared with new programmers. Steve encouraged contact with Laurel Avalon for interview guidance. There was PC discussion about the pricing for the proposed local news show and the Board will need to approve more any unbudgeted item that is more than \$5,000/yr. Current local news show proposal tentatively approved awaiting audio file submission. Probationary status of all shows and possible approval for half-year was suggested by Steve at PC. PC was clear that they were not in support of more syndicated programming, they are wanting to support local programs and local news, and local programmers. However, no new news programming can be added if we don't have space in the Matrix.

Part-time board-operator to get more people on air suggested by Mercedes.

Bobbi: we may only need 2 half hour Pacifica shows if we re-air our current local shows. Bobbi already asked the 5 programmers on Thursday if they would be willing to accommodate the addition of Sue's program from 5-5:30PM on Thursday. All said they could move to Tuesday. Possibility of re-airing local news on Monday at 1-1:30 PM, leaving one half hour spot that we would need to fill. "Ecotopia" and "The Real Issue" could be repeated on Thursday and Friday. With a board-operator and a steady KZFR interviewer, we could feature representatives from all kinds of non-profits and other organizations around the community to get the word out about the great things that are going on in our region.

Grant: right now, "Nonhuman Radio" and "the Breakdown," two live public affairs shows, are off air due to COVID but need to be considered when adding new programming, as they will be welcome to return to their shows after the pandemic.

Steve: Counterspin is a headline show that comes out on Friday and isn't aired on KZFR until Monday at 5.

Anna: we need to take this one step at a time. She questioned the issue of "little by little" vs "all at once". Having people run the Board might be useful for all of us, perhaps securing an internship situation with CSU Chico or Butte College for people studying these kinds of things. We will have the commitment of students which is connected to their grade and also helps the station.

Ray: being one of the Thursday people, he likes the line-up and is happy to move if necessary. Much of this is PC talk and yet he is always open to creative solutions.

Mercedes: hesitant about simply “opening a space” without having something local and solid to fill that space

Paul: has asked other sources/radio stations and all at once was better so all of the changes are there to work with right from the beginning. He reiterated the need to have a band on the schedule where listeners can find what they expect. It’s really common for local news programmers to come and go because it is such hard work and it’s even harder to demand volunteers take on that responsibility. It takes around 20 hours of labor to produce 1 hour of quality news (and to a similar degree, public affairs) programming.

Bobbi: the change can’t be parsed out throughout the schedule for the same reasons. Consistency across a band has been proven to be best, as a solid chunk. “Nonhuman Radio” and “the Breakdown” could fit in band.

Mercedes: are there programmers who will be affected by the proposed band who will not be amenable to being shifted or moved in order to accommodate these changes? How do we reach out to them? Do we know who they are? They need to be contacted ASAP. Is that a PC thing? A GM thing? Is that Grant, who is our program trainer?

Steve: 56 programmers would be affected - it’s more than half the programmers. Last time there was a Matrix change, an All Station Meeting was called and everyone left feeling better after the gathering.

Paul: agrees, that after the BOD discusses, an All Station Meeting is next step

Rob: agreed we need to go public ASAP and budget enough time to both listen and speak their piece.

Bobbi will re-send, to NDC, the list of potential Pacifica programs we already pay for access to. Paul asks that the NDC split up to evaluate those shows and then the NDC can perhaps make informed suggestions to the PC.

Promotion of partnership with “The Real Issue Productions” discussed, suggesting big promo and possibility of direct Underwriting support and grant-opportunities once on the air.

Anna is looking into Native Radio/Latino Radio, PA/News programming. Will recommend a couple of half-hour shows to NDC before next meeting so maybe a couple of us could listen and discuss before suggesting to PC.

ChicoSol mutual partnership possible. Paul will contact Leslie Layton, who has offered to let us use their blog to produce news programming, either segments (“Local Voices”) or a half-hour show.

Discussed need and process for the public to join the NDC meetings. By the Bylaws, all KZFR meetings are open to the public; minutes and agendas must be posted on web. Are we considered a private or public non-profit corporation, since we receive federal funding? Several large nonprofits have membership-only meetings, is it lawful for KZFR to do the same? We do have “public comment” space on the Board agendas for every meeting. New “Public Comment Form,” posted on the website for Board meetings, could serve as a buffer for this committee as well. The link to the form could be included in the meeting minutes/agendas for the NDC. Perhaps we need to take this question to a nonprofit attorney through the NFCB and GRC - we have paid memberships with them for legal consultation.

Shannon Rooney, who has done a lot of writing with the Chico News & Review over the years, expressed interest in joining NDC to work on the promotion of local news programming. She was unavailable to sit in for today’s meeting but Bobbi will reach out to her to see if she is still interested.

Date for “All Station Meeting” to discuss the NDC and Matrix proposal will take place sometime in September. The PC will likely need to convene more regularly while this discussion is taking place.

Next NDC Meeting 09/14/20 @ 5PM

Minutes Submitted by Bobbi Tryon 08/27/20