

KBYU-TV and KBYU-FM Community Volunteer Council Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 12, 2107, 10:00 a.m.

BYU Broadcasting, Meeting Rooms A-C
Brigham Young University, Provo UT 84602

CVC Members Present: Drew Browning, R. Mitchell Adams, Marian Howe-Taylor, Steve Densley, Lynn Flinders, Reverend Sandra Jones, Suzanne Nimer, Karen Brown, Amanda Peterson, Stephanie Tanner, Bob Williams

Excused: Randy Boothe, Sherrie Hall Everett, Fred Wenger, Bill Hulterstrom

Marian Howe-Taylor welcomed the group and asked them to review the minutes from the February 2017 CVC meeting. Drew Browning suggested adding the updated list of community service priorities to the minutes. The minutes were then accepted unanimously.

Diana Simmons, KBYU Eleven station manager, confirmed that the public had been notified of the meeting and invited to attend.

Discussion

Community Service Priorities - The group reviewed the Community Service Priorities and suggested fleshing out social/emotional skills for children and parenting strategies. The group agreed.

Classical 89 and KBYU Eleven Programming Ideas – Diana Simmons shared the hope of increased budget for local productions in 2018. With that hope, does the group have any ideas for local productions they'd like to see or hear on Classical 89 and KBYU 11? The following suggestions were offered by members of the CVC:

Classical 89

- Covering some of the high school band concerts and competitions.
- Intermountain Suzuki String Institute
- Film composers at Sundance Institute
- Profiles of radio announcers

KBYU 11

- Utah History topics
 - early women legislators
 - artists sent to study in Europe in the 1800s
- A series of "How To's" on a variety of topics that would help refugees and other migrants to acclimate to life in the U.S. (Perhaps podcasts, even using college and high school students...possibly partnering with Salt Lake Community College and their media center)
- Profiles of people. Something similar to NPR's Story Corps.
- A response to the controversial Netflix series "Thirteen Reasons Why" ...perhaps "Thirteen Reasons Why Not" to address mental health and suicide.
- A program that helps people identify good sources of information, when there is so much information available online. (This could possibly also be a topic for Classical 89's "Thinking Aloud.")

Regarding “Thirteen Reasons Why,” it was suggested that parents watch the show with their kids and have appropriate discussions with them.

Possible reduction in number of hours of children’s programming on Eleven – PBS has launched a 24-hour kids programming channel which KUED airs on one of their digital sub channels. Because of this, and because childrens’ viewing habits are changing (many are watching PBS programming on electronic devices and computers), KBYU Eleven is considering adult programming such as “How To’s” from about 12:30-2:00 p.m. The CVC members recommended trying it and gathering data.

Staff Reports

Federal funding update – Congress passed a resolution to continue funding through September. The White House’s proposal to cut funding for CPB is the most serious threat to Federal funding yet seen in the history of public media. One of the best things that concerned citizens can do is to join grassroots efforts contacting local Congress members, and adding their voice to protectmypublicmedia.org. Some people feel a measure to cut CPB funding will likely pass in the House but will probably not pass in the Senate. KBYU Eleven and Classical 89 together currently receive 25% of their cumulative budgets from federal funding so it would be a blow, but probably not a fatal one. We are optimistic for our future. The big problem will be small stations in rural areas.

Suggestions for Thinking Aloud and Community Connection Guests – Looking for ideas and they can also be emailed. Amanda Peterson would like to hear about school lunch programs (current legislation and recent parent-shaming new stories) and other food-related topics.

Television Spectrum Repackaging – Michael Grover, BYUB Engineer came to present to the group about the repack process. We did not sell any of our air, but there are still implications for us. He explained that the FCC is taking the television spectrum, cutting it down, and squeezing remaining broadcasters to a smaller spectrum. We have until the end of next year to complete the process for our channels. KBYU is part of a cooperative called DTVUtah where 8 Utah members share a tower and other technology with each having their own transmitter. 6 members will be repacked and 2 will not, but they have worked out the details of how to stay together as a group. We will always be known as Channel 11 (our brand) but we are moving to Channel 17 (currently broadcasting on 44) but the technology behind it is hidden from viewers – luckily it is primarily just our headache (: Michael Grover also shared a quick overview of all the channels coming out of BYU Broadcasting. For the repack, we have to identify very specifically what equipment we can still use, and what needs to be replaced. We will only know on some elements when we test them so we are working as fast as we can until the snow flies on Farnsworth Peak. As the changes happen, we will have to be on an auxiliary antenna with reduced power for an extended period of time so from May 25-29th they will test that process and see what the impacts are around the state so we can fine-tune the settings to be ready for the real transfer next year. Marcus Smith asked why the initial repack? Privatization of air by Congress. They raised \$19 billion dollars, spent \$10 billion to channels vacating their air, and put aside a little less that \$2 to pay for the repack but there is a question that that won’t be enough to cover the expenses (for example, the first bid for our new antennae came in at \$1.8 million). Michael Grover will return and report at a future meeting

Classical 89 – Membership Report – Fundraising is still very strong. We are \$3000 above our goal for this time of year, there has been a 4% increase in membership, and our sustaining member revenue has increased 18% from last year.

Eleven

New Image Spots – Viewer Profiles – Dena shared Marian's profile that is currently airing on Eleven with the group.

The Great War – Series about WWI which will include 6 short stories about how WWI affected Utah.

South Franklin Initiative – Participating again this summer with weekly summer learning camp.

Successful Aging – Airing programming about healthy aging issues June 18-20th.

An Uncomfortable Truth – Film looking at race issue and racism. It will air in October as specific dates will be shared with the group.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m. The next meeting may be held August 11th depending on need.