

## KSPS Community Advisory Board Meeting Minutes – 9/8/16

**Attending:** Shaun Higgins (presiding), Emily Geddes (minutes), Becka Shelley, Cary Balzer  
(Program Director)

**Not attending:** Katy Durning, Terrie Ashby-Scott, Marvo Reguindin, Leo Stevens, Gary Stokes  
(General Manager)

**Public attendees:** Consuelo Larrabee

### **Opening Business**

The meeting was called to order at 4:05.

With only three members attending, a quorum was not present. Minutes from the June 2016 meeting will be presented for approval at the next meeting at which a quorum is present.

### **Program Director Report**

Cary reported that July and August were challenging months for programming due to the Republican and Democratic National Conventions which both ran long and the Presidents series which was required to air on specific days and times. Consequently, several shows had to be preempted and September will be a “catch up” month.

*An American Experience: The Boys of '36* aired on August 2 featuring two local connections among the main characters of the documentary. It generated a great deal of viewer comments and request for repeats and was the third most watched program in the month of August.

*Sesame Street's* 46<sup>th</sup> season will open on Monday, September 12 featuring a new Latina character and a new opening theme song. *Health Matters* will open its 14<sup>th</sup> season this month with a program on strokes. *Masterpiece* will be dominant this fall including *Churchill's Secret*, and season 2 of *Indian Summers* and *Poldark*. On *Great Performances*, we'll see the London revival of *Gypsy*. A new documentary called *Military Medicine: Beyond the Battlefield* will air just prior to Veteran's Day. *Nature* will have a new two-part series called *The Story of Cats* in November.

To highlight the upcoming Lantern Festival, a short locally-produced documentary called *Lighting the Night* about last year's festival will be airing this month. Hopefully, this will encourage the creation of additional locally-produced programs.

October programming will include the presidential and vice presidential debates as well as local political coverage. KSPS is part of the Washington State Debate Coalition, a group of local media organizations including commercial and public television stations and newspapers. WSDC will be sponsoring two gubernatorial debates (one of which will be hosted at Gonzaga University) and two U.S. senatorial debates. Local debates will be held for Spokane County commissioners, 5<sup>th</sup> district House of Representatives, and other positions. These local debates will be broadcast on the primary station, repeated on KSPS World and will also be available streaming online.

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The recent membership campaign was very successful as the station surpassed its goal. Becka, Katy, Marvo and Emily participated in the phone bank on the last night of the campaign. The next membership campaign will run November 25 through December 4.

The deadline for station commitments regarding PBS Kids is September 20. The governing board and staff are working on resolving financial and technical issues, and grants are being sought to help cover the cost.

For next year's year-long celebration of KSPS's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Cary is considering airing several remastered older programs, such as the original *Poldark* and *I, Claudius*, to showcase the heritage of the station.

### **Public Input**

Consuelo Larrabee, who recently returned to the KSPS viewing area after several years away, expressed her appreciation for the changes to the *Prevue* magazine that make the days easier to read and highlight particular shows. She mentioned science programming such as *NOVA* and *Nature* as favorites, as well as several mystery series and *Masterpiece*. She is looking forward to *From Here to Eternity* and other films on *Saturday Night Cinema*.

She also expressed interest in applying to become a member of the CAB. Emily will forward her an application.

### **Other Items**

No additional applications to join the CAB have been received. We discussed the possibility of running additional on-air spots, improving access to the applications by having them easily downloadable on the website and promoting it via social media. Shaun will follow-up with Gary and/or the appropriate staff.

Gary has been elected to the national board for PBS. Congratulations!

Monica Samper has joined the KSPS governing board and is, therefore, no longer on the CAB.

The next CAB meeting will be Thursday, October 13, at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10.

### **Action items**

*All CAB members:* continue gathering feedback on programming from friends, family, community members and looking for potential projects/needs to fill

*Emily:* email an application to Consuelo Larrabee

*Shaun:* follow up with Gary and/or appropriate staff regarding website updates (linking to the application, copies of recent meeting minutes) and social media promotion