

Attending: Shaun Higgins (presiding), Emily Geddes (minutes), Becca Shelley, Terrie Ashby-Scott, Katy Durning, Marvo Reguindin, Consuelo Larrabee, Gary Stokes (General Manager), Cary Balzer (Program Director)

Attending by phone: Bob Morrison

Public attendees: None

Opening Business

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:05.

The minutes from the 10/13/16 meeting was approved (motion: Emily, second: Katy). They will be forwarded to Dawn to be posted on the KSPS website, in compliance with the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) requirements.

Introductions were made and our two newest members, Consuelo Larrabee and Bob Morrison, were welcomed to the CAB.

General Manager Report

Gary commented on what the recent presidential election results may mean for CPB, PBS and KSPS, reiterating his thoughts from an email he sent to CAB members on 11/9/16:

“First, the Association of Public Television Stations (APTS,) our advocates in Washington D.C., feel optimistic about our ability to keep and possibly gain political support. Part of that optimism is based on the new Vice-President Elect, Mike Pence. While he tried to stop funding for public broadcasting as a member of Congress , he restored state funding for public broadcasting when he became Governor of Indiana in 2012, earning him the APTS Champion of Public Broadcasting Award in 2014. He has praised PBS for its early childhood educational programing and Ken Burns American history documentaries.

“Since the great De-fund Big Bird Debate back in 2012, Congress has been supportive of funding the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, providing the requested levels of forward funding in each session. With little overall change in the House and Senate, it’s hoped that will continue.

“Assuming the current Budget Resolution is approved by Congress, PBS/KSPS funding should be good through FY 2019.”

He also noted that the \$445 million allocated for CPB is a small slice of the overall budget and that the announced agenda for the first 100 days of the new administration makes no mention of public television.

In conjunction with the launch of PBS Kids 24/7, PBS is releasing the Playtime Pad, an iPad-like device offered through PBS stations and at electronics stores and preloaded with PBS apps and videos. Streaming programs will also be available on the Playtime Pad. However, it will not be available in Canada. KSPS has purchased five Playtime Pads to “test drive”.

Gary reported that his first meeting of the PBS National Board went well. Confidentiality agreements preclude him from providing specifics.

As next year is the 50th anniversary of KSPS, the president/CEO of PBS, Paula Kerger, will be visiting for two or three days in April. KSPS is working to build events around her visit.

Seven spots have been filled on the governing board, three representing Canadian viewers and four representing viewers in the United States. They provide a broad spectrum of skills and abilities including educator, PR/marketing, and broadcast engineering backgrounds.

The Education Committee is making progress on cataloging materials that can be used for local educational purposes. KSPS will be looking to hire an Education Coordinator in 2017 to oversee all educational activities. Transcriptions of interviews done with residents of Japanese internment camps during World War II are approximately halfway completed.

Gary reported that as of this point, KSPS is slightly ahead on revenue projections and slightly behind of expense projections. The Canadian dollar is at \$0.75 American, which is an improvement over earlier this year and last.

Program Manager Report

Cary reported that election night coverage went well. Viewer feedback largely indicated the viewer’s personal views and agendas. There was some concern that not all local debates (such as one in Walla Walla) were carried. Shaun noted that feedback he had received was appreciative of the local debates, that they were well done and informative. Cary mentioned that some of the technical aspects of providing the local debates were challenging, including audio, closed captioning and scheduling. KSPS is discussing how to improve the process if invited to participate in the Washington State Debate Commission again.

Katy asked about the possibility of having local programming covering the initiatives on the ballots. Cary explained that efforts had been made to find individuals willing to speak on both sides of each initiative, but they were unable to secure sufficient commitments to provide balanced viewpoints.

The presidential inauguration will be broadcast on Friday, January 20, at 9:00 AM Pacific Time. This will require moving a *Splash & Bubbles* movie event to the previous Monday.

Cary shared a letter that was received from a *Sit and Be Fit* viewer, telling of how the show helped her recover from an injury. He emphasized that KSPS makes a difference in the lives of its viewers.

The episode of *Poldark* scheduled for this Sunday includes a potentially disturbing scene. The rating has been changed to TV-14 and the content has been edited; however, Cary has not yet been able to view the edited content.

Last night, a pre-release local screening of *Soundbreaking* was held. The series received positive feedback. It will air on KSPS weeknights at 10:00 beginning on November 14.

Upcoming programs for 2017 include a new season of *Sherlock*; the eight-part series *Victoria*; season 2 of the Civil War drama *Mercy Street*; *Frontline* specials *The Divided States of America* and *Trump's Road to the White House*; and several *American Experience* programs with local focus. To complement a three-part *American Experience* series on World War I, Cary is searching for programming to tell the Canadian side of the story as well.

Rick Steves will be coming at some point in March and Cary indicated that Gary and staff are working on the possibility of bringing Ken Burns in as well.

Please see the attached notes compiled by Cary for more detail.

Review and Discussion of Bylaws

Discussion ensued regarding the terms for CAB members. As the bylaws are written, the initial CAB members must be divided into three groups, one group having a one-year term, one group having a two-year term, and one group having a three-year term. On the expiration of each term, at an annual meeting, new members will be elected for three-year terms. These rolling expirations are to ensure continuity of experience on the board. Below are listed the month during which members were elected; generally, members began attending meetings the following month:

Shaun Higgins	March 2015
Marvo Reguindin	March 2015
Terrie Ashby-Scott	September 2015
Emily Geddes	December 2015
Katy Durning	January 2016
Becka Shelley	April 2016
Consuelo Larrabee	October 2016
Bob Morrison	October 2016

It was noted that the bylaws call for a minimum of 9 members of the CAB. We currently stand at 8. CAB members were encouraged to continue recruiting members with the understanding

that maximum diversity will assist the CAB in fulfilling its mission and a dependable core group is needed to ensure the work is accomplished.

Article IV indicates that the CAB's annual meeting should be held a month before the Corporation's Annual Meeting which is in September. As the CAB generally doesn't meet during the summer, this will need to be reconsidered. The article also calls for one CAB meeting per calendar year to "be held at a location separate from the registered office of the Corporation".

Election of Officers

In compliance with the bylaws, the election of a vice-chair was held. Becka nominated Katy, which was seconded by Terrie. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Due to a change in his schedule and availability, Marvo stepped down as Secretary, while retaining his seat on the CAB. The CAB thanked Marvo for his service as Secretary. Consuelo nominated Emily as the new Secretary, which was seconded by Terrie. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Other Items

Shaun asked CAB members to review the bylaws and bring any specific suggested language changes to our next meeting. He also encouraged use of email to discuss any changes in the meantime.

Consuelo asked if the program guide could include season and episode information (i.e., S3 E5/8) for applicable programming. Cary will speak with Doug, the *Prevue* editor.

The next pledge drive will begin the day after Thanksgiving.

It was suggested that it would be helpful to CAB members for Gary or another staff member to speak to the CAB regarding how sponsorship and development work.

The next CAB meeting will be Thursday, December 8, at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35.

Action items

All CAB members:

- continue gathering feedback on programming from friends, family, community members and looking for potential projects/needs to fill;
- continue recruiting new applicants;
- review CAB bylaws and bring specific suggestions for any changes to the December meeting