

WTTW COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES
of
the Public Meeting
of the
WTTW Community Advisory Board
of
Tuesday, October 13, 2009

WTTW Studios
5400 North St. Louis Avenue
Conference Room B, 2nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois

The meeting was called to order by Chairman at 6:00 p.m.

The roll was called. Present were the following members of the Community Advisory Board (CAB):

Lorenzo Vazquez, Chairman
Margot Baas
Helen Bracey
Bernadette Chopra
Barbara Cragan
Janice Goldstein
Jim McLure
Lennette Meredith
Mary Lou Mockus
Maggie Steinz
Renée Summers
Norma J. Sutton
Charles A. White
Joseph A. Morris, Secretary.

The Chairman declared the presence of a quorum.

The presence of the following additional persons was acknowledged:

V. J. McAleer, Senior Vice President of WWCI for Production and Community Partnerships.
Yvonne Davis, staff support.

The following member of the general public was present:

Donna Rook

The Chairman proposed an Order of Business. Without objection the Order of Business was adopted. A copy of the Order of Business is attached as Appendix 1.

Consideration of the minutes of previous meetings was deferred.

Lennette Meredith, Chairman of the Membership Committee presented the report of the Membership Committee, stating that the Membership Committee recommended the election of Donna Rook to membership on the CAB. Norma J. Sutton, Co-Chairman of the Membership Committee, introduced Donna Rook and moved that Donna Rook be elected a member of the CAB. Lennette Meredith seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted and Donna Rook was elected a member of the CAB, effective immediately.

The Chairman reported that Vice Chairman Redd Griffin was absent because of illness. No Vice Chairman's report was presented.

Barbara Cragan, the Chairman of the Program Committee, reported that the Program Committee had not met since the last meeting of the CAB.

The Chairman reported that the position of Chairman of the Outreach Committee is vacant and that, pending consideration by the CAB of proposals for restructuring the CAB and its work, he did not intend to appoint a Chairman or members of the Outreach Committee.

The Chairman reported that the Trustees' Liaison to the CAB, Barbara L. Proctor, was absent and that there was no communication from the Board of Trustees to be presented to the CAB.

V. J. McAleer, Senior Vice President of WWCI for Production and Community Partnerships, reported on behalf of Station Management on the following matters:

1. The Station will soon carry Ken Burns's new series on the National Parks.
2. The Station continues to serve as a partner in the Golden Apple Awards, which recognize and honor excellent school teachers.
3. The Station will produce a new program, expected to appear in June 2010, tentatively called "From DuSable to Obama: Chicago's African-American Experience".
4. The Station will produce a new program, funded by the Alberto-Culver Foundation and to involve the assistance of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, called "Health Secrets: What a Woman Should Know". The program will be hosted by Paula Zahn; will be taped in November and December 2009; and will involve a strong web component.
5. The Station is about to launch the ninth season of "Check, Please".
6. The Station is developing, and should soon implement, a new ability to post

videos of programs on its website and to allow, going forward, archival access to locally-produced shows.

The Chairman called for New Business. Mary Lou Mockus suggested that the Station consider broadcasting "The Power of the Poor", a production based on the work of the Chilean economist, Hernando de Soto.

The Chairman called for Unfinished Business.

Mr. Morris, Chairman of the By-Laws Committee, presented the Report of the By-Laws Committee. A copy of the report is attached as Appendix 2. Mr. Morris moved the adoption of the report, including the element of the report, set forth at Paragraph 8 of the report, proposing an amendment to the Bylaws of the CAB. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cragan. After discussion, the motion was unanimously adopted. Pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws, Paragraph 8 of the report will be carried over to the next meeting of the CAB for final consideration. Paragraphs 1 through 7 of the report are effective immediately.

Ms. Mockus asked that the proposed Resolution relating to the Fairness Doctrine be taken up from the table. A copy of the proposed Resolution is attached as Appendix 3. Without object, the proposed Resolution was put before the CAB. The proposed Resolution had originally been presented by Mr. Morris and its adoption had been moved by the Vice Chairman and seconded by Ms. Mockus. Discussion was held. The Chairman called for a vote on adoption of the proposed Resolution. The Resolution was adopted by a vote of 12 aye, 0 no, and 2 abstentions. Ms. Steinz and Ms. Sutton asked that the minutes record that they abstained on the vote.

Without objection, the Chairman declared that, in accordance with the standing schedule of the CAB, he would call the next meeting of the CAB for December 8, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at the Station.

Ms. Steinz moved to adjourn. Ms. Sutton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted. The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph A. Morris", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph A. Morris
Secretary

APPENDIX 1

**WTTW Community Advisory Board (CAB)
Regular Bi-Monthly Board Meeting**

Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Time: From 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Location: WTTW - Window To The World Communications, Inc.
Front Entrance -conference room B 2nd Floor, 5400 North St. Louis, Chicago, Illinois

Order of Business—*Proposed*

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Call to Order | Lorenzo Vazquez
(Chair) |
| 2) Roll Call | Lennette Meredith |
| 3) Approval of Minutes | All |
| 4) Reports of Officers and Committees: | |
| a) Membership Committee | Lennette Meredith &
Norma Sutton |
| b) Vice-Chairman | Redd Griffin |
| c) Secretary | Joseph A. Morris |
| d) Program Committee | Barbara Cragan |
| e) Outreach Committee | |
| 5) Trustees Liaison & CAB Meeting with WTTW Board | Barbara Proctor |
| 6) Management Feedback | V.J.McAleer |
| 7) New Business | Chair |
| 8) Unfinished Business | All |
| a) By-laws | |
| b) Fairness doctrine | |
| 9) Public Comment | |
| 10) Adjournment | Chair |

Program & Outreach Committees *TBA*

Next CAB Meeting: December 8, 2009

6:00 to 8:00 P.M.

APPENDIX 2

WTTW COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the free flow of information and ideas is central to the mission of WTTW as a public broadcasting station; and

WHEREAS, it is a goal of WTTW and other broadcasters, public and otherwise, to present controversial issues of public importance and to do so in a manner that is honest, equitable, and balanced; and

WHEREAS, government is inherently ill-equipped to determine what issues are and are not controversial, what issues are and are not of public importance, and what manners of presentation are honest, equitable, and balanced; and

WHEREAS, such efforts by government, however well-intentioned, lead to, and are themselves a form of, censorship, which is inimical to the free flow of information and ideas; and

WHEREAS, in 1949 the so-called "Fairness Doctrine", directing broadcasters, public and otherwise, to present controversial issues of public importance and to do so in a manner that is honest, equitable, and balanced, was adopted by the Federal Communications Commission and enforced as a general standard on a case-by-case basis; was adopted as an FCC regulation in 1967; was in 1974 the subject of a warning by the FCC that compliance with the "Fairness Doctrine" might be made mandatory; and was revoked by the FCC in 1985; and

WHEREAS, since the revocation of the "Fairness Doctrine" in 1985, public and general broadcasting, augmented by the internet and other new media, have continued to offer presentations of controversial matters of public importance, and have done so in an environment of robust debate and competing media, in which honest, equitable, and balanced presentations are offered to the public; and

WHEREAS, various voices have recently called for the policing by government of the presentation of controversial matters by public broadcasters and others, including by means of a revival and further entrenchment of the "Fairness Doctrine"; and

WHEREAS, it is the considered judgment of the WTTW Community Advisory Board that any revival of the "Fairness Doctrine" or any similar scheme of governmental regulation and control of the content of broadcasting with respect to matters of public importance, however well-intentioned, would be inimical to the goals of WTTW and the values enshrined in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WTTW COMMUNITY
ADVISORY BOARD:

1. The WTTW Community Advisory Board finds that the revival, in any form, of the "Fairness Doctrine" or the imposition of any scheme of governmental regulation and control of the content of broadcasting with respect to matters of public importance, would be injurious to the mission of public broadcasting, in general, and WTTW, in particular.
2. The WTTW Community Advisory Board opposes the revival, in any form, of the "Fairness Doctrine" and the imposition of any scheme of governmental regulation and control of the content of broadcasting with respect to matters of public importance.
3. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Management and Board of Trustees of WTTW.
4. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Chairman and Members of the Federal Communications Commission.
5. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to each Senator and Representative representing Illinois in the United States Congress.

APPENDIX 3

WTTW COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
August 4, 2009

Presented to the Community Advisory Board
August 11, 2009

The By-Laws Committee met, as directed by the CAB, on August 4, 2009, at the WTTW Studios. Present were Members Redd Griffin, Mary Lou Mockus, and Joseph A. Morris and, by telephone, Member Marion Hoyda.

The consensus of the committee was that the By-Laws require very little substantive change, provided that the CAB pays appropriate attention to the provisions of the By-Laws and adopts workable operating procedures to implement them.

The committee recommends:

1. The CAB should focus on its established duties (a) to “advise the WTTW Board of Trustees with respect to whether or not the programming and other policies of WTTW are meeting the educational and cultural needs of the Chicago metropolitan area” and (b) “make such recommendations as it considers appropriate to meet such needs”. (By-Laws, Art. II, § 2(a).)

2. To carry out its duties, the CAB should insist that the Board of Trustees and management of WTTW “permit” the CAB “to review the WTTW programming goals established by WTTW, and the impact on the community of significant policy decisions rendered by WTTW”. (By-Laws, Art. II, § 2(b).)

3. The CAB should establish an annual work cycle that culminates in an annual written report presented when “the officers of the WTTW CAB ... request to meet annually with the Executive Committee of the WTTW Board of Trustees to provide the WTTW CAB perspective on whether the programming and other policies of WTTW are meeting the specialized educational and cultural needs of the communities served by WTTW and make such recommendations as the WTTW CAB considers appropriate to meet such needs”. (By-Laws, Art. IV, § 1.)

4. The annual work cycle of the CAB should be organized, in accordance with By-Laws provisions scheduling annual and regular meetings (By-Laws, Art. V, §§ 1 and 3), as follows:

February: Review the prior year’s work and report and responses, if any, by the Board of Trustees, Management, and others; ask the Board of Trustees and management to “permit [the CAB] to review the [current] WTTW programming goals established by WTTW, and the impact on the community of significant policy decisions rendered by WTTW”.

April: Annual meeting for election of new members and election of officers; review of response by Board of Trustees and Management regarding policies and impact; work assignments.

- June: Public hearing on “educational and cultural needs”, “impact of programming and other policies”, and other “programming and policies” that may be necessary to meeting “educational and cultural needs”.
- August: Evaluation of public hearing; general discussion toward annual report; guidance to drafting committee.
- October: Review, revision, supplementation, and adoption of annual report.
- December: Meeting with “Executive Committee” of Board of Trustees and / or other representatives of Board of Trustees and management for advance and oral presentation of report.

5. The April (annual meeting) and October (report adoption) meetings should be plenary meetings (requiring a quorum of at least half the entire CAB membership pursuant to By-Laws, Art. V, § 6). The February, June, August, and December meetings should be meetings of the Committee of the Whole at which all CAB members may be present but at which attendance by a minimum of only three members is required (By-Laws, Art. VI, § 1.)

6. The annual report should address (a) the identification of “educational and cultural needs”, (b) the “impact” on those needs of WTTW’s “programming and other policies”, and (c) recommendations for changes, if any, in WTTW’s recognition of educational and cultural needs and in WTTW’s programming and other policies. The annual report should include a summary of public commentary and other input received and reviewed by the CAB during the year and, as appropriate, exhibits of such commentary and input. The annual report should be a document arrived at by consensus, if possible, but should freely include minority statements, including statements by a minority of one, if and as necessary. (No recommendation is made at this time as to whether or not it should be required that minority reports be signed.)

7. The annual report should be published, including posting on the WTTW website, and publicly disseminated, including to the Federal Communications Commission and to the news media, one month after its presentation to the WTTW Board of Trustees and Management.

8. The preamble of Article III of the By-Laws, which currently states:

The WTTW CAB shall be a diverse group with regard to race, gender, age, and community of residence.

should be amended to state:

The WTTW CAB shall be a diverse group with regard to race, gender, age, *culture*, *views*, and community of residence.