

Held 7 March 2024, 7-9 PM CDT online via Zoom <https://zoom.us> ID: 811 895 6459

7:07 Call to Order

Mike Feldman (Chair) called the meeting to order.

7:07 Introductions

Chair introduced himself then called attendees to do so. The order was haphazard because Zoom resorts the participants list as people join and leave, and some join late.

7:21 Approval of the Agenda

Evelyn Underwood moved to approve, Kristy Rice seconded; with no discussion or objections the agenda was approved.

7:23 Approval of the Minutes

Dave Vollenwider reported that the December 2023 meeting minutes were not quite complete; Chair tabled to June meeting.

7:23 Reports

7:24 Station Manager's Report

Eric Bohlen (Station Manager) opened by saying WEFT will experience change. Dave Monk's building was sold and will likely have remodeling and get a new business. The City of Champaign is modifying Market Street. There will be a Celebration of Life for the tragic loss of Brandon Hardway, the Pour Brothers manager, and on 1 June a memorial celebration in Market Street. WEFT was selected as a participant in a Wine Walk on 4 May organized by the Champaign Center Partnership. WEFT is going to start advertising on Smile Politely, and WEFT is sponsoring and posting about more community events and social media followers have increased dramatically. The Champaign Park District, and new underwriter, wants WEFT to sponsor Bach's Lunch. There's upcoming Air-Shifter Training, and we all should be welcoming and helpful to trainees; we've been losing too many who take the training. Outreach is making and distributing Goody Bags.

7:37 Board of Directors' Report

Vicki Niswander (Board Chair) reported that the new owners of Dave Monk's building will execute a quitclaim deed for "Dave's bedroom", which occupied the the rear of WEFT's second floor. The City is considering a permanent closure of WEFT's end of Market Street (like with Friday Nite Live) making it an entertainment district. TJ Blakeman of City Planning said the City Council will consider these plans 19 March. Mr. Blakeman also offered to introduce WEFT to management at the Innman Building, which is a potential new site for WEFT's Studio-to-Transmitter microwave link. WEFT needs more in-studio trainers for the upcoming Air-Shifter training. Evelyn Underwood asked about Public Affairs Air-Shifters. Vicki pointed out that being on-mic for most of a show doesn't leave enough time for instruction. Kurt Eilbracht also mentioned that trainees should be encouraged to sub shows to keep them involved and to learn. Gina Pagliuso asked about station security, and the discussions with the City included concerns for all the building in the area with only one exit. The Board is also looking into installing a security camera. The Station Manager mentioned that Bob Paleczny and Dave Vollenwider are looking into camera options, and that the City raised concern about the glass front of the building being bullet-proof or shatter-proof.

7:51 Treasurer's Report

Mark Niswander shared his treasurer's report (attached below). Mark walked us through the report with highlights that there was another 300 shares of Apple stock donated to WEFT along with some large institutional gifts and grants. Gina Pagliuso asked about a decrease in power costs at the transmitter, and that was attributed to better air conditioning efficiency with new equipment.

7:59 Governance and HR Committee Reports

Vicki Niswander reported that Dave Witzany was reviewing and revising the proposed new bylaws that had been worked on earlier, and when he's done the committee will re-convene.

8:00 Programming Committee Report

Gina Pagliuso provided a report (attached below) and mentioned some highlights and mentioned the open seats on the PC. Gina sent email to air-shifters who have lapsed in the membership, and reminder emails to air-shifter who haven't been attending Associates meetings.

8:05 Music Committee Report

Anthony Santarelli reported that the music committee had their first in-person meeting since Covid. The committee has been clearing space in the basement and on the second floor. Bob mentioned that Kevin Elliott and Barb Trupinski-Roberts are culling the folk and country collections. The plan is to cull harder since there's work in progress to make the culled CDs more accessible on the second floor.

8:10 Digital Library Report

Bob Paleczny provided a written report (attached below). He mentioned the FCC-required Emergency Alert System firmware was finally available and installed. A power failure in January caused computer problems, so the Board funded Uninterruptable Power Supplies for the key computers and other equipment. One is installed and another planned. A new Keyboard-Video-Mouse switch for the front studio is in the works. WEFT was compliant for its Sound Exchange reports. The transmitter's reflected power readings are being monitored; they have jumped up a few times and don't go down. Gina reported complaints about the AUX input having one channel drop severely in level. Several air-shifters chimed in. There was also discussion about problems with CD players' useful lifetimes and souring replacements. Zack Widup said he might be able to learn how to adjust the laser controls to recover functionality of our stack of old CD players.

8:24 Financial Development Report

Vicki Niswander mentioned the upcoming spring fundraising drive -- please avoid the word "pledge". She showed Ed Hadley's tee shirt design. The underwriting brochure is also getting revised.

8:27 Remote Access Team Report

Gina Pagliuso provided a written report (attached below). Remote operations continue at about the same level with the occasional bout of dead air.

8:28 Community Outreach Report

Todd Hunter reports that it is becoming difficult to schedule meetings and only a few people attending.

8:31 Voting**8:32 Voting - Board of Directors**

Vicki Niswander described the duties of board members and made a call for candidates. She nominated herself for her expiring seat. Bob Paleczny nominated himself, but not for his expiring seat, but for an open odd-year, that would give him a one year term instead of two years. He explained the importance of continuity of experience in handling WEFT finances and felt he should continue to support Mark in the Treasurer's role. Evelyn Underwood seconded both nominations.

8:42 Zoom Voting Procedure

There was discussion of the mechanics of voting and how we've had problems with the Zoom poll mechanism. For the last several Associates meetings voting was by private message to Vicki, but since she was running, Todd Hunter volunteered to get and tally the vote messages.

8:47 Voting - PC

The Chair opened the floor for PC nominations while the discussion of voting procedure continued. There were no PC nominations.

8:51 BoD Election Results

Todd Hunter reported the Board election results: Vicki Niswander was re-elected to a 2-year term, and Bob Paleczny was re-elected, but to a one-year term.

8:52 AEC Voting

The Chair described the role of the Associates Executive Committee (AEC) and opened the floor for nominations.

Mike Feldman (Chair) reported burn-out in the role and nominated himself for Secretary, replacing Dave Vollenwider, who had announced that he was not seeking re-election. Todd Hunter and Zack Widup both nominated themselves for re-election, but were not willing to run for the Chairman seat. Evelyn Underwood stepped up and nominated herself for Chair. Evelyn also nominated Ben Theobald to run for an at-large seat, and Ben seconded (accepted) the nomination.

9:05 New Business - Mailing Lists

Jeff Machota requested to the Chair a discussion of the WEFT-o (Operations) mailing list prior to the meeting, so this fell under new business. Jeff pointed out that his message warning of an active shooter just outside of WEFT was held for a couple of hours until a list moderator approved it.

There was much discussion about the history of the WEFT-o (Operations) and WEFT-a (Associates) mailing lists, and the mechanics of administering the lists and moderating messages. Gina pointed out that the question of moderating individual or all subscribers to the lists was a policy decision and therefore the purview of the Board and not the Associates. Vicki as a WEFT-o administrator and moderator had already set all active subscribers to un-moderated, including Jeff. Todd and Gina had suggested that the Associates request that the Board consider the policy of moderating the lists. Bill Saylor seconded the suggestion that the associates recommended to the WEFT Board to un-moderate all subscribers of WEFT-o. As Vicki is currently Board Chair and WEFT-o list administrator, that had just happened in fact without the need for further formality.

9:23 AEC Election Results

Vicki reported that all AEC nominees were elected unanimously, with Evelyn Underwood as AEC Chair, and Mike Feldman as Secretary. *Although after the meeting it was determined that Ben Theobald was not eligible to run because it was his first meeting.*

9:25 Agenda Complete - adjourn

The meeting adjourned at the completion of the agenda. The meeting had run 25 minutes over without a formal motion to extend.

The next Associates meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 5 June 2024, 7-9 PM online via Zoom.

WEFT treasurer report - March 2024

Current balances

Savings account		\$79,894	(0.02% interest)
Checking account		\$27,892	(0% interest)
TD Ameritrade/Schwab cash		\$621	(0.45% interest)
PNC CD1 (3.25% yield at 8 mo)		\$5,150	(8 mo., 4.9%, 9/5/24)
Schwab CD (Flagstar Bank)		\$37,962	(1.5 year, 4.75%, 7/7/25)
PayPal		\$23	
	<i>Total</i>	\$151,542	

Stock

AAPL	936	\$169.00	\$158,184
PSEC	3000	\$5.44	\$16,320
	<i>Total stock value</i>		\$174,504
	<i>Total assets</i>		\$326,046

Monthly activity

Income

			Anonymous donation of 300 shares AAPL (\$57,958), \$4000 donation towards the winter appeal, \$5000 donation from the Pasadena Community Foundation, and \$6800 grant from IAC.
Donations	December	\$76,690	
	January	\$9,754	
	February	\$2,024	
	March (to date)	\$195	
2023 Winter Appeal		\$9,811	

Expenses

American Tower	\$829
Ameren (trnsmttr)	\$708
Ameren (studio)	\$174
Constellation	\$89
Comcast	\$356
Ameritech	\$110
DonorSnap	\$79
Health ins stipend	\$250
Paychex TPS taxes	\$765
Paychex EIB invoice	\$37

Paychex payroll	\$1,689
ABC Sanitary	\$30
Illinois American Water	\$36
UPS unit	\$152
Bookeeper	\$599
Dixon Graphics (Fall PD T-shirts)	\$883
Martin Hood (tax prep)	\$1,485
Ill Broadcasters Assn	\$275
BMI	\$769
Weldstar	\$91
City of Champaign (parking)	\$342
Minuteman Press (winter appeal letter & mailing)	\$512
NFCB	\$1,275

Notes

Monthly bills noted in bold are relatively constant from month-to-month.

Other expenses are annual or one-time only.

PC Report for March 7, 2023 Associates' MeetingNew/Time Change Shows:

Zara ON changed to Zara Gospel - 4-6am Dec. 12
Zara Country changed to Zara ON – 6-8am Dec. 11
Lora Goodnight – Thursday Courier coverage 4-6pm

Special Programming:

CU Radio Theater – Patrick Stewart’s two hour “A Christmas Carol” aired Dec. 25 6-8pm
UpFront Soul – Dr. King special (music and speech excerpts) aired Jan. 15 6-8pm

Ended Shows:

Deacon Harris Early Morning Gospel – Dec. 24 after 40 years!
Mic’s Bag – Micaela Kauffman was planning a “last hurrah” show on Jan. 20, but it didn’t work out. Mic’s Bag has ended production Saturday 6-8pm (alternating weeks)

PC Membership/Open Seats:

Two Associate-elected seats are available for election this evening and three BOD elected seats are available – please see Gina for BOD election procedure if interested. Jeff Zolitor (elected to the PC at Dec Associates’ meeting) has stepped down due to previous (and new conflicting) commitment.

PC working on:

The PC has continued holding meetings via Zoom. The PC has had quorum issues recently (two meetings canceled during the quarter) – is anyone interested in running for an open seat?

Airshifter tracking tool – reminder emails went out to any Airshifter that has not attended two Associates’ meetings in the past year (18 Airshifters) and all Airshifters in arrears with their membership dues (5 folks) on Dec 1 (17 meeting/8 dues prior to Dec 2023 meeting).

Booth trainings occurred in late November/early December. Next FCC training will be held on March 24 at 3:00pm in the Great Hall. Considering ongoing (refresher) training for current Airshifters.

Probationary Reviews:

Frame Noise review was presented to Przemek Bosak on Dec 12, 2023. Wait, What? Review was presented to Eric Bohlen on February 12, 2024

Airshifter Contact Info:

Binder was updated in early January

PC Report for March 7, 2023 Associates' Meeting (con't.)Current Open Show Time Slots:**Sunday**

Open Format 11am-noon

Monday

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

Monday Morning Menu 6-9am

Monday Morning Jazz 9-11:30am

World Beat 2-4pm

Tuesday

Freeform Overnight midnight-6:30am

World Beat 2-4pm

Courier coverage (assist Kirk Hard) every other week in-studio 2-4pm

Wednesday

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

Morning Menu 6-9am

The Courier 4-5:30pm (Excellent volunteer opportunity)

Open Format 8-10pm (2nd week) – currently Zara RPM

Thursday

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

World Beat 2-4pm

Informational Format 5:30-6pm

Roots, Rock Reggae collective (3 weeks/month open)

Friday

Freeform Overnight midnight-6am

Friday Morning Jazz 9-11:30am

The Courier 4-6pm (Excellent volunteer opportunity)

Blues Live Collective 8-10pm (2 weeks/month open)

Open Format 10pm-midnight (2nd, 4th and 5th weeks) – currently Zara RPM

Saturday

Freeform Overnight midnight-8a

Open Format 8-10am (1st, 3rd and 5th weeks alternating with Higher Ground) – currently Peace Talk Radio, Economic Update, Counterspin

Open Format 4-5pm (currently Zara Jazz)

Open format 6-8pm (alternating with Wait, What?)

Program proposal forms (hard copies) are in PC binder in the back studio. Digital versions found at http://new.weft.org/about/show_proposal.html and may be emailed to programming@weft.org.

Digital Library Associate Report

Zoom Meeting 7:00 – 03/07/2024

1. Updated EAS to Rev96 2/6/24, reloaded local customizations
new version of EndecSetD 2/6/24 - on Great Hall computer
RWT (Auto) ran fine 2/22/24
Dave replaced Bad connector on CAT 5 cable to EAS - No more Nagios errors,
2. Power Outage Saturday 1/27/24 8:30 pm
UPS to keep things running, Amazon – APC 1500 VA (BX1500M) for Great Hall systems
Arrived – Streaming/Recording computer hooked up 2/29/24
Zara/Spinitron computer – Saturday during Radio Free Labor
APC 600 VA (BE600M1) – order 2 - 1 for Front Studio, 1 for basement monitoring system
3. New KVM switch for Zara/Spinitron & Comp1 (Camille donated Display Port version)
Longer cables arrived
4. Sound Exchange 4th Qtr. reporting period 11/6/23 thru 11/19/23
4th Qtr. '23 results email from Jeff Cabiness - Compliant and ATH = 1766
Just completed 1st. Qtr. '24 2-week reporting period - files in place w/NPR-Sound Exchange
Next reporting period May 5 - 18
“If you are able, please submit a playlist and stream log that covers this period in its entirety.”
Statement on NPR site, perhaps some day we'll have to do full Qtr.??
5. Still concerns about elevated Reflected Power readings
Reflected Power took another jump to 62.5 (was in 51 – 55 range for a couple months)
highs of 68.6 Watts 2/27/24
7. Collection of audio tracks from DL Collecting computer in basement
getting close to completion, wrapping Ian's RPM

RAT (Remote Access Team) Report for December 6, 2023 Associates' Meeting

As of February 26, 2024, 13 shows per week were being home-produced and 48 shows per week were being produced in-studio. The balance of 21 shows per week was being covered by RAT member remote operations (Courier/Informational programming/Zara).

As of Jan 29, 2024 13/45/24

As of Jan 9, 2024 13/45/24

WEFT broadcast dead air on Wednesday, Jan 17 due to an Airshifter emergency – remedies/protocol discussed with Airshifter.

WEFT broadcast dead air on Sunday, Jan 28 due to a missed remote transition.

WEFT RAT continues to support Airshifters who choose to remain at home via remote Zara coverage or through facilitation of the broadcast of home-produced programming.

Attendees, 7 March 2024 WEFT Associates Meeting:

Aaron	Ammons
Carol	Ammons
Eric	Bohlen
Trzemyslaw	Bosak
Andrew	Cardinal
Lorri	Coey
Jeannie	Covert
Cope	Cumpston
Kurt	Eilbracht
Rick	Esbenshade
Mike	Feldman
Indranil	Gupta
Edwin	Hadley
Marleen	Hendrickx
Kristin	Holtz
Todd	Hunter
Shaun	Mills
Paul	Mueth
Mark	Niswander
Vicki	Niswander
Gina	Pagliuso
Bob	Paleczny
Kristy	Rice
Anthony	Santarelli
William X.	Saylor
Richard	Schoell
Ramavarapu	Sreenivas
Ben	Theobald
Barbara	Trumpinski-Roberts
Evelyn	Underwood
Dave	Vollendweider
Zack	Widup
Seon	Williams

Excused Absences:

Denise	Curia
James	Eagan
Kevin	Elliott
Ian	Hammond
Jeff	Machota
Jodi	Schneider