

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING September 26, 2023

CAB Members Present: Rowena Finn, Charlotte Hudgins Zito, Season Roberts, Jevon Baskerville, Megan Higgins, Hoda Zaki, Denise Fisher, Thomas Isenhour, Al Schweizer, Peg Volk, Stephanie Robinson, Benjamin Lynerd, Christopher O'Brien,

WHRO Staff Present: Nancy Rogan, Lisa Godley, Susan Davis

Meeting started at 6:03PM

Welcome – Charlotte Hudgins Zito welcomed everyone and passed to Season for the Ice Breaker

Ice Breaker – Season Robinson asked members to each tell their favorite Halloween candy and their favorite costume.

June Meeting Minutes Approval – moved to next meeting.

Content Report – passed around the table for members to read.

WHRO Moments – Tom Isenhour talked about his time volunteering for the Radio pledge drive, how much he enjoyed it and encouraged everyone else to volunteer if they can. Season also added the importance of volunteering and giving to non-profits.

Charlotte and Season spoke about the importance of volunteering time as well as being contributing members of the station. Nancy pointed out being a sustainer is easiest and less expensive for the station, and for the member as well.

Current Community Trends

Lisa Godley shared information on Curate show Against the Current. It will be available to watch on spring of 2024.

Lisa is the moderator for a community event around VCIJ's current article on Eminent Domain. It will be in partnership with Hampton University and will take place at a theater on their campus. At this time WHRO is in communication with Frontline and they are interested in this topic being part of an episode in December.

Stephanie Robinson talked about Suffolk's inability to handle the social and family issues that are arising due to the quickly growing population of the city.

Al Schweizer talked about the delays in recycling bin delivery in Newport News.

Rowena Finn talked about a Ted talk that she heard about 4 day work weeks. Chris O'Brien advised that his company may be looking into it. They tried half day Fridays during the summer without working make up hours through the week and it seem successful.

Hoda Zaki talked about working with the League of Women Voters, a non-partisan organization, they were about to sign up quite a few new voters. Unfortunately they had some people throwing out documents and generally trying to cause trouble.

Benjamin Lynerd talked about underfunding in Newport News schools and seeking outside grant money for programs. Newport News deducts the grant amount from the earmarked money from the budget amount allocated for the programs. CNU's political science department is partnering with the WHRO news department to send surveys to local politicians with their information and views to share through the WHRO Newsletter.

Javon Baskerville talked about a new school building in Hampton, funds were set aside 2008 and finally built in 2022. That started a conversation about how parental involvement may be needed to help get things done.

Chris and Meghan talked about trying to get Covid vaccines and tests. Chris had scheduled a Covid vaccine at CVS, when he arrived he was told that they were out of vaccines. Meghan went to Walgreens for a Covid test and was told that they didn't carry them anymore.

Nancy Rogan talked about the endowment fund for the news department. Bert's vision was \$20 million to support the department in perpetuity. Also talked about the importance of local news without the slant required from advertisers.

Meghan Higgins asked if we had a canned post to share on social media to promote WHRO local news. Nancy Rogan advised members that Emerging Leaders are looking for new members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33PM.