

WHRO CAB Meeting Minutes 9/10/19

6-7:30 pm

In attendance: Nancy Rogan, Al Schweizer, Kevin Martingayle, Sibel Galindez, Lacey Kuller, Richard Dyer, Denise Fisher, Thomas L. Isenhour, Valeria Jessup, Uday Khambhammettu (Vice Chair), Felicia Mebane, John Miller (Chair), Christopher O'Brien, Season Roberts, Alison Schoew, Peg Snowden Volk, Margie Wiley, Charlotte Hudgins Zito

- I. At 6:00 pm, John Miller welcomed the group and presented a new chart made by Denise Fisher to help board members track meeting attendance and volunteer hours. Lacy Kuller asked John to introduce our new board members, Season Roberts and Margie Wiley.
- II. Allen Hagerman gave an Alexa/Echo explanation to the board. Allen encouraged board members to use it and report back to Nancy with any issues.
- III. The May meeting minutes passed unanimously. John reminded the group to read them online prior to each board meeting.
- IV. The Chair ceded his time for comments so that the producers could introduce their latest projects and hear about current community trends and issues.
- V. Current Community Trends and Issues with Producers:
 - A. Paul Beebo, producer of Hear Say and Watching America, discussed upcoming programming. Cathy Lewis will be interviewing Dr. Quentin Kidd about state elections and the big policy issues facing our state including gun control, cuts to military spending due to Trump's wall funding, the opioid crisis, and healthcare costs. The next episode of Watching America will feature the "ends" of the Earth, or the apocalyptic events that have already happened such as extinctions, global warming, etc. American Graduate will address generational issues with regards to skilled careers. Parents do not always support kids who pursue skilled careers and AG hopes to shift the narrative in a more positive direction.
 - B. Nancy Rogan let us know about a meeting WHRO held in June to talk about how to help women pursue skilled careers. WHRO applied for and received a \$500,000 grant from the Hampton Roads Workforce Council to train 40 women in maritime industry skills.
 - C. Danny Epperson, producer of Cinema 15 and Curate, discussed what will be airing through Cinema 15 starting this month. The new season will include *High Noon*, *Witness*, *Stand By Me* and other great classic movies, commercial free, at 8pm Saturday nights. Curate Season 5 is looking for new artists to feature, so please send information to Danny. The new season will feature new venues such as the glass gallery at the Hilton Downtown Norfolk and the Norfolk Botanical Gardens.
 - D. Margie Wiley mentioned SPARK, Suffolk's arts council, and the downtown train station that is featuring artist's murals. She also told the board about the SPARK event on September 21. The streets of downtown Suffolk will be closed for the arts event and there will be live music.

- E. Charlotte Zito suggested to Paul Beebo that a lengthier feature of Hampton University and President Harvey would be great after he was featured on All Things Considered for his university's outreach to those impacted by Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. She also added to the conversation regarding healthcare. Paul had said that he would be interviewing a representative from CHKD, and Charlotte told him about her personal experience with CHKD's exorbitant billing for ambulance transport. Margie Wiley and Kevin Martingayle added their voices to the conversation about healthcare and billing practices locally.
- F. Kevin Martingayle made his argument for why board members and WHRO staffers need to be increasing online presence on Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and other forms of relevant social media. He also recommended that WHRO pursue more college student interns to handle social media. Felicia Mebane suggested that WHRO social media content should be more lively and playful to fit the medium.
- G. Lacy Kuller mentioned to Paul Beebo that pets are also impacted by the insulin shortage. She also informed the producers that Samaritan House is now allowing families who are escaping abuse to enter shelters with pets through a partnership with Red Rover. Lastly, she talked about attending the most recent State of the Cities meeting and realizing that Hampton Roads cities develop comprehensive plans without good communication between cities. She asked why we haven't established a regional comprehensive plan.
- H. Nancy Rogan shared a video called "A Tricky Chat" that was produced in New Zealand to address the generational conversation regarding skilled careers. She reminded the board that there will be a screening of Ken Burns's "Country Music" at the studio on Thursday, Sept. 12. There will be a screening of the first episode of the last season of "Poldark" on Thursday, Sept. 26. There will also be a screening of the documentary that WHRO created about the Virginia Street Choir on November 12 at the new Goode Theater at Virginia Wesleyan University.
- I. John Miller invited everyone to his annual board holiday party on December 8 from 4-7 pm. It will fall on the Sunday before our December meeting.
- J. Nancy Rogan announced that the studio just hired Becca Feldhaus Adams as the news director. She is in the process of hiring two new journalists.

VII. Committee Reports: John Miller asked committee chairs to share updates and for new members to consider which committee they would like to join. We also put stickers on our chart! The meeting concluded at 7:30 pm.