

WHRO CAB Meeting Minutes 3/10/20

6-7:30 pm

In attendance: Nancy Rogan, Al Schweizer, Kevin Martingayle, Lacey Kuller, Denise Fisher (via phone), Thomas L. Isenhour, Valeria Jessup, Felicia Mebane, John Miller (Chair), Christopher O'Brien, Marcy Germanotta, Alison Schoew, Alicia DeFonzo, Alvin Schweitzer, Margie Wiley, Charlotte Hudgins Zito

- I. At 6:00 pm, John Miller welcomed the group and reminded everyone to add stars to the chart made by Denise Fisher to help board members track meeting attendance and volunteer hours.
- II. Kate Pringle introduced herself to the board and discussed her work as a Major Gifts officer and her background in the nonprofit world.
- III. The December meeting minutes passed unanimously. Al Schweizer moved to accept the minutes, and Alison Schoew seconded the motion. 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 HearSay with Cathy Lewis, discussed upcoming programming. HearSay will be talking to the governor about the Amazon facilities that are coming to Suffolk and Chesapeake. They are also airing two powerful shows about vaccines. The recent show that Cathy hosted about “conversion therapy” was emotionally moving, and a week later, the Virginia legislature voted to make it illegal.
  - B. A number of committee members volunteered various ideas for a new show that Paul Beebo is researching featuring athletic and health opportunities for older community members in Hampton Roads. Kevin Martingayle, Margie Wiley, and Charlotte Zito all volunteered ideas out of Virginia Beach and Suffolk.
  - C. Lacey Kuller brought up her experience in conversation of a disconnect between school superintendents and the programming created by WHRO.
  - D. Nancy Rogan responded that community engagement between WHRO and the schools is increasing around the new Getting to Work program.
  - E. Kate Pringle said that technical and vocational education are the first programs to get cut in her experiences with the Virginia Beach Public School system.
  - F. One CAB member discussed a rising enrollment crisis that colleges across the country, including Old Dominion University and Virginia Wesleyan University, are facing. Over the past 10 years, enrollment in public and private colleges has declined each year.
  - G. Chris O'Brien, Kevin Martingayle, and Felicia Mebane all agreed that they had professional and personal experiences that would attest to the growing crisis in higher education.
  - H. Lacy Kuller said that April is National Heartworm Awareness Month and she would love to see programming that promotes information about this concern.

- I. Marcy Germanotta reminded us that March is Women's History Month, and that there will be events surrounding the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment at the Virginia History Museum.
- J. Margie Wiley, Nancy Rogan, Al Schweizer, and Marcy Germanotta all discussed upcoming programming and recent news reportage around women and voting.
- K. Charlotte Zito mentioned the local resurgence of the League of Women Voters beginning in 2017.
- L. Nancy Rogan shared WHRO's amazing work on the Vietnam War Wall of Faces. There are only two people remaining without pictures, Douglas Cooke of Newport News and Walter Williams Jr. of Portsmouth.
- M. There was some discussion of the upcoming Antiques Roadshow event in Williamsburg and volunteer opportunities.

VIII. 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 Membership Committee will be pushing out more advertising and also surveying current members to determine who is rolling off the board in 2020. According to our latest email survey, Valeria Jessup and three other current members are rolling off the board and there will be 2-3 seats available for September of 2020. The Membership Committee hopes to review applications in May to be able to share candidates at the June meeting. The Membership Committee also discussed the roles of Chair and Vice Chair for the coming season. The meeting concluded at 7:30 pm.