

KSPS Community Advisory Board (Regular)
12 June. 2025 16:00 PT via Zoom

CAB Members Present: Bob Morrison (Vice-Chair), Christopher Powell (Secretary), Patty Crone. Ann Dyer, Marianne Patton.

Regrets: James Albrecht (Chair)
Absent: Donna Phillips.

KSPS staff attending: Gary Stokes (President and CEO), Shawn Claypool (Interim General Manager), Debbie Brennan (Programming Director), Skylar Reep (Development Director)

Regrets: Dawn Bayman, Station Manager

A quorum being present, Bob called the meeting to order at 16:01 PT.

Motion to approve the minutes from 15 May. 2025. Moved by Chris, Seconded by Ann.

Reports

The Community Advisory Board heard reports from the following staff:

Gary Stokes, General Manager and President

Skyler Reep, Development Director

Debbie Brennan, Programming Director

Staff Action Items

General Manager and President's Report: Gary informed the Board that Congress has approved the recission package, estimated at \$535 million. Skyler added that for KSPS this amounts to about \$1.2 million by 1 October. We have guidance, internal and external, regarding changes to communications team and strategic planning. The recission package now goes to Senate, but things are not optimistic.

Gary pointed out that at the last PBS meeting, there was initially an absence of concern over the matter. We need to make sure we are getting our message across. The total recission package amounts to about \$1 billion. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) is the third in a list of targets. On 30 June the budget process begins.

Skyler added that “we can’t fundraise our way out of this” and is reluctant to say that the \$1.2 million can be replaced.

Gary finished by stating that Canadian support is strong and encouraging.

Development Director's Report: Skyler informed us that in terms of federal funding, we are receiving mixed messages regarding CPB.

Fundraising was up seven percent in May, and eleven percent in June. In general, it is up nationally. The best methods are direct mail, email, and canvassing.

Canvassing is not the most efficient, but it is the most direct and personal.

PBS is launching Travel Club, an initiative to bring viewers together in the places where our programming is about. The first attempt will be a tour of famous sites of the American War of Independence to coincide with the new Ken Burns series on the topic.

Programming Director's Report: Debbie informed us that a new travel series titled *The Most Luxurious Journeys* will begin in July. Independence Day will be marked by *A Capital Fourth*. *The Renaissance: The Blood and the Beauty* will begin 8 July. *Great American Recipes* will include a contestant from Spokane and will air 14 August. Pledge Week is 9-16 August. Lawrence Welk is leaving the schedule. As of 23 August, all British comedies are moved up to 7:00. Other programs include *Under the Vines*, season four of *Professor T*, season two of *The Marlow Murder Club*, and *Grantchester*.

Round Table Discussion from CAB Members included the following programming: *Memorial Day*, *Inside High Noon*, *Super Y*, *Paw Patrol*, *Big Pacific*, *Ultimate Crash Test*.

Old Business – none.

New Business – none.

Next meeting is 11 September at 16:00 PT.

The meeting adjourned approximately 17:00 PT.