

KSPS Community Advisory Board (Regular Meeting)

12 February, 2026 16:00 PT via Zoom

CAB members present: James Albrecht (Chair), Bob Morrison (Vice Chair), Marianne Patton (Secretary), Ann Dyer, Chris McGoldrick

Regrets: Christopher Powell, Patty Crone

KSPS staff present: Skyler Reep (Interim General Manager), Shawn Claypool (Chief Administrative Officer), Debbie Brennan (Programming Director)

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

Minutes of 8 December 2025 were approved.

Minutes of 8 January 2026 were placed on hold for the March 2026 regular meeting.

Reports From KSPS staff

Interim General Manager: Skyler referenced his weekly “Executive Dispatch” and the usefulness to CAB members of reading it prior to the meeting. Members discussed some of the updates presented there. In addition, Skyler also reported that the Jeffersonian Dinner, the station’s first-ever \$1,000-per-plate fundraiser was sold out. There is a waitlist for the next one.

The Annual Report will be distributed shortly. It excels at highlighting what the station has been doing over the past year, and what the impact has been even while funding was disturbed at the national level. The report was developed in tandem with the KSPS Strategic Plan and responds to the National Research Unmet Needs Study.

Skyler announced the upcoming March 24 documentary “White With Fear.” A larger-than-usual number of calls are expected due to the provocative nature of its focus on the use of racism and fear by conservative political operatives. Given that the documentary aligns with PBS values and journalistic integrity, the station will find ways to engage the community around it, possibly including panel discussions (@Issue was suggested), QR code responses, or online forums. The film has had some local screenings, including Winthrop, WA, and Skyler will explore the impacts it had.

Chief Administrative Officer: Shawn reported that the Media Makers internship program has ended due to funding cuts. The station gave a final screening for families and friends, who were highly impressed by the work of the high school students.

Hiring of a new Master Controller is in process, and a new host will be coming to Saturday Night Cinema.

Programming Director: Debbie listed and described some upcoming broadcasts, including:

March 1: All six seasons of Downton Abbey on Passport

March 4 and forward: Pledge events will include several behind-the-scenes programs about some popular shows: “All Creatures Great and Small: Seasons of the Dales,” the 10-year “Making of the American Revolution,” a 90th birthday concert tribute to Pavarotti, and “Manners of Downton Abbey” (90-minute documentary).

March 13: Queens of Mystery series begins (an Emmy-nominated British murder-mystery comedy-drama)

March 21: A Mighty Wind on Saturday Night Cinema

March 22: Call the Midwife begins season 15

March 22: The Forsytes weekly saga begins

March 22: The Count of Monte Cristo weekly series begins

March 24: White With Fear documentary

Round Table Discussion by CAB Members

Especially appreciated programs:

The Empire Builder: James J. Hill and the Great Northern Railway (4-part series); Gregorian: Pure Chants Live in Prague; From That Small Island: The Story of the Irish (4-part series); All Creatures Great and Small; The Last Independent Automaker (4-part series); Nutcracker from English National Ballet (Great Performances); The Great Ride; Parenthood (Nature); Asteroids: Spark of Life? (NOVA); Showstoppers! Great Women of TV Variety; The Quest for Camelot (Secrets of the Dead); The Great Escaper (Masterpiece); The Pack Horse Librarians of Appalachia; The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow (4-part series); The Good Karma Hospital; View Finders (3 seasons); Sister Boniface Mysteries; Saturday Night Cinema

Debbie explained how Saturday Night Cinema movies are chosen. Late CAB member Shaun Higgins also explains the process in this short clip: <https://www.pbs.org/video/cinema-chat-the-next-movie-trend-6zbeio/>

Bob requested Debbie to see if the miniseries National Dream: Building the Impossible Railway, about the Canadian railroad, could be acquired. **James** hopes she can acquire the 4th and last season of Good Karma Hospital. **Chris M** especially appreciated Australian television programming.

Ann shared her experience with PBS Kids app functionality across different devices and platforms, noting significant differences between the Sony and Samsung versions. **Marianne** had difficulty merging Passport with her dual memberships in KSPS and Cascade. **Skyler** offered to assist with that process. **Bob** and others commented on the repetitive fund-raising efforts that occur after they have already made a donation or in tandem with the station thanking them for the donation.

Bob suggested adding a tribute to Shaun Higgins in the @Issue program. Shaun was instrumental in championing public affairs programming. **Marianne** is experimenting with methods to double KSPS membership in the small Chelan Valley viewing area.

Old Business – All CAB members have received the draft CAB Bylaws document and should read it carefully before the next meeting. James requests all comments and questions be sent to Skyler, Shawn and James by February 23 so that a final draft can be approved on March 12, 2026

New Business—None

Next meeting is 12 March 2026 (second Thursday) at 16:00 PT.

The meeting adjourned at 17:29 PT.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Patton, Secretary