

WCUW 91.3FM

910 MAIN STREET, WORCESTER MA 01610

Minutes of the April 15, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 pm. Meeting Via Zoom and in person at 910 Main Street

MINUTES

Attending: Uma Ananth, Mark Babson, Greg Check, Gail Hunt, John Solaperto, Ed Arndt, Mike Warren, Lee Griffen, Robin Scott, Ann Souza, Scott Hayman, Executive Director, Troy Tyree, Ex-Officio

Guests: Walter Hentritze, Dan Hunt

Review and Approval of Minutes from March Board Meeting:

John Solaperto moved to approve the minutes as corrected, and Greg C. seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Discussion with the owner of Fantastic Pizza

The owner of Fantastic Pizza visited and shared that, upon consideration, he will not partner with Nekos Pizza from Grafton and will instead embark on rebranding and renovating Fantastic Pizza, including layout changes, paint job, and signage updates. He will provide a plan for addressing storage issues in the kitchen area also. He discussed a renovation plan for the restaurant, including changing the name to "Grub Guru" to match his food truck, removing clutter, repainting the walls and ceiling, and installing LED lighting in the bathroom. He suggested he will cover the open kitchen area with a screen to improve visual appeal and clear the signage to display his truck's logo. Additionally, he planned to clean up the exterior of the building, which currently has graffiti and spray paint. Another improvement he hopes to make is to add air conditioning for the summertime. The board thanked the owner for his work and for sharing his plans. Discussion ensued as to the Pizza Place's current lease and our long-term relationship with regard to our own plans. Discussion also ensued about including the food with our events. Mark suggested that the results of our SWOT planning may suggest that we want to do something else with the space. The board agreed that we should continue to work with him and extend a lease of at least two years if he asks.

Savings Account update from Greg Check

Greg shared an update on the Savings Account balances. He reported the balances reflect the transfer of the \$60,000 from the savings to a 6-month CD. He also reported that we

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spent \$4,500 today on the remote equipment as discussed and approved earlier. There should be another \$1,000 in labor costs to install this equipment.

WCUW Restricted Account (15004247914523)

Summary as of 04/14/25

Date	Amount (TDI)	Amount (Bequest)	Amount (GWCF)	Amount (Daymarc Foundation)	Amount (Fidelity)	Amount (ARPA)	Amount (Vegan Nation)	Total Account
Beginning balance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
Statement period end 9/30/23	32,004.73							32,004.73
Statement period end 10/31/23	32,007.23	74,808.77						106,816.00
Statement period end 11/30/23	32,010.34	68,737.16	6,160.60					106,908.10
Statement period end 12/31/23	32,013.65	61,535.97	6,161.24					99,710.86
Statement period end 1/31/24	29,516.73	56,139.02	5,576.82	20,002.09	5,000.52			116,235.18
Statement period end 2/29/24	29,519.67	49,338.71	5,577.38	20,004.08	5,001.02			109,440.86
Statement period end 3/29/24	28,722.72	48,178.84	5,577.97	12,088.36	5,001.55			99,569.44
Statement period end 4/30/24	26,925.47	44,646.12	5,578.54	12,089.59	2,501.81			91,741.53
Statement period end 5/31/24	26,928.54	35,484.25	5,579.18	4,173.07	0.00			72,165.04
Statement period end 6/30/24	25,331.05	35,487.76	4,979.67	4,173.48	0.00			69,971.96
Statement period end 7/31/24	19,332.95	35,491.24	4,980.16	29,176.35	0.00			88,980.70
Statement period end 8/31/24	16,877.58	35,494.87	4,980.67	29,179.34	0.00			86,532.46
Statement period end 9/30/24	16,879.45	25,101.44	4,981.22	21,181.69	0.00			68,143.80
Statement period end 10/31/24	11,240.10	25,054.18	4,981.76	21,184.01	0.00			62,460.05
Statement period end 11/30/24	9,471.39	24,830.73	4,382.21	20,331.10	0.00			59,015.43
Statement period end 12/31/24	9,471.39	24,830.73	4,382.21	20,331.10	0.00			59,015.43
Statement period end 1/31/25	9,173.11	22,191.95	4,383.02	26,610.09	0.00	85,632.28		147,990.45
Statement period end 2/28/25	9,173.95	22,043.28	4,383.42	25,812.46	0.00	85,640.13	1,000.09	148,053.33
Statement period end 3/31/25	9,175.55	20,438.84	4,384.18	23,811.65	0.00	25,644.59	1,000.26	84,455.07
Interim balance 4/14/25	9,175.55	20,438.84	4,384.18	18,645.62	0.00	25,644.59	1,000.26	79,289.04

Infrastructure Committee Report

Greg reported that the CD library is progressing with racks and electrical. Larry will build 3 more end racks. The committee recommended that we should stop “shucking” the CDs and simply leave them in the jewel cases. The committee will solicit ideas on how to organize the CDs. The committee will look for volunteers to carry out the organization of the CDs. Programmers will be consulted with how to organize the CDs. The rough costs of the CD library renovations will be \$2,500. Larry and Dan have donated lots of labor. When including the carpet squares the costs may reach \$3,000. The record library is the next room to think about improvements or at least improving cosmetics. More discussion ensued about space planning, including for additional employees. Heating, cooling, and bathrooms were discussed as key areas to continue improving. We need a specialist to look at the heating and cooling system. Greg shared that Larry is going to talk to ACE about installing mini splits in various rooms/zones.

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FrontRoom programming committee update from Gail H and John S

John and Gail reported we raised \$1,813.10 for March between Gallery, Record Sales, and Front Room events. \$240.00 from Jill's show. \$170 for tips for the band for Rose's show and \$680 for the Peter HIFI show plus \$30.00 in record sales at the show. Cinema Worcester raised 593.10 for March and there was a special film showing that raised \$100.00. May is packed with events. Greg has been posting all the events on the website. The Gallery has dates all the way through the end of the year. Sugar Ray and many others are planned for May. Troy mentioned we have 175 more people for our email list because of Cinema Worcester. More than half of the people are now opening our email blasts. Andy (Cinema Worcester) wrote an endorsement to be used with the 150 new emails suggesting that people become a WCUW member. We are on track for 20K in revenue for the Front Room. Gail said many of the performers in the FrontRoom would like to re-book. The FrontRoom could certainly use more volunteers.

Ed Report from Troy

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CD Library:



Many thanks to Larry Haley and Dan Hunt for creating new shelving in the CD Library. Soon, programmers will be able to check out New Releases!

Any bets on the year that we will once again run out of space?

This is two weeks worth of New Releases

Then

Now




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Program Changes:

Dave Curry is now hosting the 2nd Friday
2 PM to 4 PM Afternoon Mix

Community Matters now airs Wednesday 4 to 4:30 PM
Talkin' Birds is back on Wednesday. 4:30 to 5 PM

Open slots: Alt. Monday and Tuesday 7 – 9 pm Folk shows





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PRODUCTION:

Many thanks to Rudy Cepko for his production assistance with Democracy Now! and for creating timely announcements for upcoming movies and concerts.

Any programmer or community member is welcome to schedule a training on using the production software.

Also, another thank you to Jonathon Babcock for assisting with repairing CD players that were once considered dead.




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Year-to-date comparison:

Record Sales for Jan to date:	\$ 1,881
Special Events Jan. to date:	\$ 3,006
Movies Jan. to date:	\$ 3,652
Spring Fund Drive to date:	\$ 6,655
Total:	\$ 15,194

Total all categories Jan. – April 15, 2024 \$ 8,160

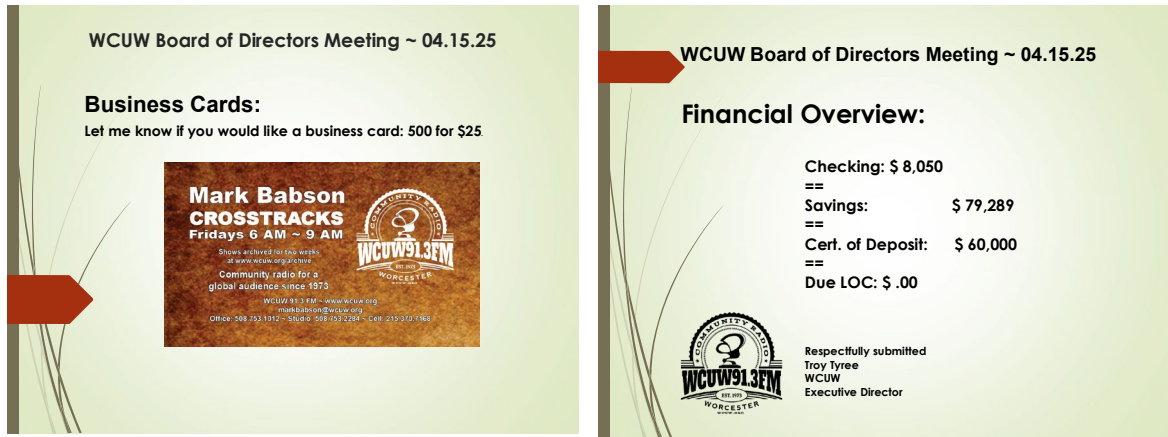
Total Member Donations to Date: 126



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The rescheduled SWOT meeting is for Saturday, 1-3 pm. Same time and same place.

New Business -Jonathan Leary proposal to apply for grant to Mass Cultural Council

- Jonathan is a former Board Member of WCUW and has been a sound and recording engineer for many years for bands and in clubs throughout the Worcester area.
- Jonathan has worked with many of Worcester's best-known bands, such as Preston Porter and many other sound and recording engineers, some of whom have passed away such as Spider Hansen and Goerge Weston. He also worked with Paul Vuona from Zonkaraz, who has also passed away.
- Currently, Jonathan works with Farm View Studios, which is the successor studio to the Long View Farm Studios, which recorded for Zonkaraz as well as many other bands.
- Jonathan is asking that WCUW serve as a fiscal conduit for a grant application due to the Massachusetts Cultural Council on April 30th. The Grant is under the category of Creative Experiences. Awards of \$2,500 to \$5,000 will be given for festivals or projects. WCUW has received this grant for the Dylan Festival in the past.

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- **Jonathan's project:**

- Organize a number of local, well-known performers to do a show(s) in the FrontRoom, which he will record on both audio and video and then mix and produce at Farm View Studios for a product.
- The performers would include Rick Porter, of Preston Porter fame, Chuck and Mud and Mike Ladd.
- He would like to pay the performers \$200.00 each up to 12 for a total of \$2,400.
- He would then use the balance of the grant proceeds (\$2,600) to pay for studio time at Farm View Studios (100.00 per hour but he would hope to get a discount).
- He thought the shows at the FrontRoom could be a \$20.00 ticket show. From what I can tell from speaking with Jonathan, this is the only revenue that WCUW could get some revenue from.

Scott recommends that WCUW should be the applicant and WCUW should receive some funding built into the grant either from ticket sales or grant funds or a combination. The Board, after good discussion, agreed that we should work with Jonathan to write and submit the grant and that we should receive a minimum of \$750.00 plus some share of ticket sales. A motion was made and seconded to move forward with the terms shared above. All were in favor.

Rental Policy:

Troy reported that several groups have rented the FrontRoom recently, including the Democratic Socialist of America and the Center for Non-Violence. Troy wanted clarity about our policies regarding renting the room for “political” purposes vs. educational purposes. Robin suggested that we need to develop basic criteria that are measured against our mission.

Mark Babson adjourned the Meeting.