

# Bisbee Radio Project

## January 13, 2020

### Minutes

Board Members present: Joni Giacomino, Mark Parsons, Patricia Worth, Raechel Running, Sandy Tilcock, Scott Conklin and Steve Nunn

Members present: James Mahoney

Call to Order: 4:07 pm

#### 1. Mexican Consulate:

Issue:

- \$20,000 was given to the KBRP board in exchange for outreach services such as life skills training, culturally appropriate financial and educational guidance to new immigrants

- The agreement was signed between KBRP station manager Ryan Bruce and a Representative of the Mexican Consulate, Jorge Ernesto Espejel Montes.

- There is no paper trail regarding how and where the money was spent.

- the board does not have the means to return the money

- the mexican consulate sent the Board an email in late November to find out how we can repay or meet our obligation They requested that we provide services in Wilcox. The Board responded by stating that it was election time for the Board and that we would hold off until the new board is in place.

- Another email was sent in Mid December requesting the same info.

Discussion:

- Our attorney has indicated that the agreement may not be valid and that the Consulate should go after Ryan Bruce and not the current board.
- Should the board consider criminal charges against Ryan Bruce.
- May need to provide contractual services. Maybe give publicity, services or a combo of both. Perhaps building programming worth a dollar amount toward said services.
- What have we or are currently doing for bi-national communications.
  - Provided funding and equipment for Radio Natural in Naco.
  - Peter Young currently programs cultural music during his shows.

A break from Mexico Consulate discussion was taken to discuss our roof issues.

Board Vice President Steve Nunn had invited the Bisbee building inspector to discuss how the roofing contractor that performed roof repairs in Feb 2015 was able to pass inspection. The roof was installed for the previous owner prior to donating the building to Bisbee Radio Project.

The Inspector, Joe Ward, listened to Mark Parsons concerns after showing the roofs current condition to potential contractors, about how it appears that many shortcuts had been done. He also stated that the roof flashing was not installed properly. The 4 contractors that we have had a look at our roof agrees that the flashing and the roofing shingles appear to have not been installed properly.

Mark also questioned whether the contractor was actually licensed to perform the work. Joe Ward stated that the contractor was certified to perform the work. He also stated that any company is only as good as it's employees. This happens with all companies.

Joe Ward then asked when the roof was done. Sandy Tilcock told him Feb 2015. Joe pointed out that it was probably still under warranty and recommended that we contact Johnny Rabey be given the opportunity to resolve the issue first. That perhaps his insurance company will pay for the repairs. He should have a liability for the work.

Sandy agreed to contact Johnny (last name) to see if he is willing to resolve the issue for us.

The board then returned to the Mexican Consulate issue.

Raechel suggested that we could work other bi-national groups to provide community exchanges for services that may already be available. It might be a good idea to establish partnerships with some of these groups.

- After all the discussion, it was decided to meet with the Consulate representatives and see what they are proposing.
- The board picked Tuesday the 21st and/or Wednesday the 22nd as possible dates to meet with the Consulate. Both dates the time would be at 4:30 pm.

## 2. Discuss possible action on the future of the Royale.

- Joni explained that prior to the election of the new board, it had been decided to have a vote of the members whether to keep or sell the Royale.
- The board is currently trying to get the books straightened out to be able to provide up-to-date financial info.
- Joni asked James Mahoney (member of the election committee) to prepare a draft ballot and have it ready to go. The reason is that the committee had just done the ballot for the board election.
- It was stated that it is likely to take 3 to 6 months to get the finances broken down to a KBRP and Royale budget.
- Also of concern is the need for a Communications Person to update the webpage, Facebook and other social media accounts. It was stated that we, as a board, are not sharing some of the positive things

that are happening. Also, mentioned was the fact the the website shows the Royale and finding info about the Radio station on the main page is perhaps backward.

- We can't pay a Communications person, but could perhaps offer an internship through Cochise College. We had 3 interns at one time. Joni will ask Nancy to see if this could be worked out.
  
- Another huge issue with the Radio Station is the need for a Station Director. It was asked what the station manager would do and the response was:
  - Raises and get monies
  - Writes grants
  - Runs membership drives
  - Coordinates programming
  - Organizes and implements outreach
  - Technical issues
    - Assuring MEG is backed up
    - Downloading programming
  - Training of all Radio volunteer staff
  
- Concerned about the cost of a station director at this time. Estimated to be anywhere from \$40,000 to \$80,000 per year.
- Need to have the money budgeted and in the bank.
- Sandy is currently paying and number of annual expenses that we really don't have control over such as BMI and ASCAP.

One of the largest concerns about running the KBRP and Royale is the volunteers are limited typically to the current board and a handful of dedicated volunteer members. Everyone has been feeling VERY overwhelmed.

Mahoney suggested that we visit or meet with Kathy Rivers of KXEI to see how they are operating and what is working for them.

The board approved the minutes from the January 9 meeting.

Motion made by Joni, seconded by Steve Minutes were approved.

3. Amendment to the bank account, removing current authorized check signers appointing two new check signers.

Motion made and seconded to remove Paul Tomkins and Vicente Abril from the check signing. Passed without objection.

Motion made and seconded to have Raechel Running and Joni Giacomino as the new check signers. Passed without objection.

Motion made and seconded to require two signatures on any check of more than \$500.00. Passed without objection.

Adjourned: 5:29 pm

Submitted by Scott Conklin