

WABSI COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MAY 2022
MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON ACCESS BROADCASTING SOCIETY, INC.
(TRADING AS WELLINGTON ACCESS RADIO) COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2022, 6 PM ONLINE VIA THE ZOOM
PLATFORM

The minutes of the meeting were recorded by John Saunders.

1. Apologies: (Council members) Eddie O'Strange and Simon Howard.

The Council agreed to the apologies.

**Moved: John
Dorai**

**Seconded:
Carried**

2. Present: (Council members) John Saunders, Dorai Gounder, Julie Lamb, Fa'anu'u Anitere'a and Shahram Aryan. (Staff member) Kristen Paterson – Station Manager

3. Minutes of the last Council meetings

Council agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 9 February 2022 as a true and accurate records of those meetings.

**Moved: John
Dorai**

**Seconded:
Carried**

4. Financial Report

Kristen tabled the report - In summary, the annual funding application and a different application for capital expenditure to upgrade computer systems have been submitted to NZ on Air. The Station has applied for programme funding from Wellington City Council grants from the Arts and Culture fund and the Social and Recreation fund. Programme income is \$10,000 below budget due to the pandemic, but TRB advertising (\$28,000 above budget) has offset that across three quarters. There is now a steady return to the Station of programmes which will see a gradually increasing airtime income across Q4. While Covid advertising is likely to reduce in the coming months, the amount accrued across the first three quarters will continue to offset below-budget programming for the rest of the financial year. Kordia transmission is over budget due to price increases, while

studio maintenance is under budget. Computer office expense is \$3,000 over budget, but Internet Service Charge is \$3,000 below budget due to both costs being attributed to Comp Office Expense, so are on budget. Office supplies expenditure is up due to purchasing health and safety supplies (switching to paper hand towels, stocking up on N95 grade masks etc.). The projected cost in the next quarter will be for the air conditioning upgrade at \$15,000, due to be completed on 10 May. There is a surplus of \$29,753.84 for the year so far.

Council agreed that the current accounts as presented for the period ending 31 March 2022 are accepted as a true and accurate .

**Moved: Dorai
Julie**

**Seconded:
Carried**

5. Station Manager's Report

Kristen tabled her report. In summary - the Station staff spent the third quarter initially welcoming people to the Station back at Level 2, planning for the Covid Protection Framework – Traffic Light settings and implementing a vaccine pass mandate. A tough quarter for the Station, initially shutting and then reopening into the peak of the Omicron outbreak. Staff illness and three staff leaving at the end of Q2/start of Q3 (technical, community liaison, marketing). One new staff member started (technical). Covid hindered the new staff recruitment process, but a new hire has been secured for the community liaison role, to begin in May. Planning is also underway to hire a marketing and communications staff member.

Some planned work activities, such as general operational procedure planning work and role realignment, were delayed due to the limited staff capacity.

The Station Manager presented at a Hui E webinar on funding. Wellington Access Radio has been in touch with Wellington, Porirua, Lower Hutt, and Upper Hutt Multi-Cultural Councils to organise a group meeting to discuss a combined programme for multi-cultural councils and to address the needs of multi-cultural communities during Covid. There were also meetings with Community Research Aotearoa, Popsock Media, Adam Art Gallery and the Museum Wellington.

A new community drive programme has been established to cover

community, arts, culture, and local campaigns. These are the continuation of C-Zone, plus the establishment of Noise Report (music), The Hot Box (women, feminism, and culture), the re-establishment of B-Side Stories (culture and campaigns and environment) and Hutt Zone (Hutt valley community and culture).

6. General Business

6.1 Society constitution update

After general discussion on the way forward to seeking Society membership, the Council agreed to hold an offline discussion with the initial working group.

6.2 Compliant about a programme-maker and their programme – discussions held in camera

After a general discussion, the Council agreed to remove the programme from the Station's on-air listings. An appropriate email to be sent to the programme-maker outlining the coordinated Council action.

6.3 Wellington Airport Awards

The Station had submitted an application for consideration to the Awards.

1. Date of Next Meeting

6 PM on 10 August 2022, online via Zoom.

Meeting called to a close at 6.58 PM