



GOLDEN VALLEY COMMUNITY BROADCASTERS  
KZFR COMMUNITY RADIO 90.1 FM

341 Broadway, Suite 411  
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**KZFR Program Committee Minutes of meeting July 18, 2024, via Zoom**

Meeting called to order at 5:05pm

**Members present:** Bob Steinacher, David Fuhs, Robert Jones, Michelle Mussuto, Grant Parks  
GM/Chair

**Members absent:** Marcie Ligammari, Peter Ratner (submitted comments earlier via email)

**Guest attendees:** Kim Weir (Board of Directors), Sanjay Dev ("Devastation Sounds"),  
Phil Elkins ("L.A. Sounds")

**Correspondence and Public Comments:**

- **Gerald Schwanke:** Grant: Assumes from the date the comment was posted that G. Schwanke was referring to "The Real Issue." David: Chris Nelson was the substitute host and did not read the station disclaimer at the start of the show. The disclaimer card is no longer in the studio. Grant: Will tell G. Schwanke that we discussed the complaint. Will remind Chris to read the disclaimer. Will find/replace the disclaimer card in the studio. David: "Dumpster fire" doesn't mean anything, so it's hard to know what the issue is, would like specifics.
- **Alicia Trider:** Phil: I grew up in East L.A. All my friends and my girlfriend were Latino. The complaint is funny and insulting. This is who I am. This is how I speak. I am not pretending to be anyone. Open to any questions or comments. Robert: Listened to the recordings submitted by A. Trider, found it hard to see any differences in either Phil's or Sanjay's voice that can't be attributed to their radio personas. Sanjay's radio voice may be exaggerated, but it's definitely not Jamaican, not cultural appropriation. Sanjay: Made the video introducing himself and his family to his new math students as a meditative way to make people feel relaxed. When he is in classroom, that's not how he speaks -- very passionate, just like when on the radio. Been a running joke on "Devastation Sounds" that he is white trying to sound Jamaican. Never got a complaint about his accent in 35 years of teaching. Listened to the entire "Devastation Sounds" episode that aired right before A. Trider's complaint. Grew up in Nepal, was taught in a Catholic school by Jesuits, including from the West Indies. Has ancestors from Fiji and Jamaica. Wish he could speak Jamaican patois, but can't, so doesn't attempt it on the radio. Aware of what he says. There are phrases in Jamaican patois that may come along with the show. Familiar with pretty much all the Jamaicans in Butte County and none have ever complained about his show. David: It seems to be a just difference in interpretations and underlying assumptions, but A. Trider hasn't accepted our replies. How do we resolve this so everyone is happy? Phil: He is willing to meet with her or anyone else. Sanjay: Willing to speak with A. Trider if she brings 5 Jamaicans with her. Bob: Listened to both shows for 30 years and both Sanjay and Phil have told the story of where they are from. Robert: The question is: are Sanjay and Phil even reasonable cases of cultural appropriation? The reply to A. Trider should simply state that there is no cultural appropriation and your claim is false. Questions of cultural appropriation are complex and nuanced. Reasonable people can disagree whether this is cultural appropriation. Grant: It is the consensus of this committee that neither Phil nor Sanjay is doing an act of cultural appropriation when they are on the radio. Asks for a vote of agreement: Unanimous Yes.

**ACTIONS TAKEN**

- New program proposal: Eli Sabe, “Mission: Love Possible.” Michelle: Will the show content be Eli’s thoughts on life or more of a bio? Grant: It’s what she plans to read on the air? Not good radio. Michelle: Agreed. We are not religious radio. “Faith and Common Ground” presents a lot of different viewpoints. Don’t want to promote a particular religion. Won’t make good radio. David: Weekly shows that involve live interviews (e.g., “Studio 416”) have multiple hosts in rotation because one person can’t keep up. Don’t think we should approve shows without a demo. Bob: It’s just her musings and one viewpoint. Need to provide a demo. Robert: Agreed it’s hard to approve what amounts to a public affairs show without a demo. Grant: Don’t see how she will get enough content weekly. Where’s the show? Random thoughts, not cohesive. Kim: Hard to see how she comes up with tight content. David: Move to deny. Bob: Second. Vote: Unanimous.
- New program proposal: Scott Pressman “Ska-T’s T Party.” Grant: No demo. “Ska-T” used to be a KZFR programmer. Open-ended music show. Request a demo? Everyone: Yes.
- Six-month review of Amayita, “Groovz & Moodz.” David: Like it. Good fit for the “Radio Free Chico” slot. My partner listened to it by accident and loved it, wants to meet Amayita. Michelle: Likes the mix of talk and music, good voice. Plans to listen again tomorrow morning. Robert: Great energy, so earnest, passionate, that comes across. Want her to keep doing the show and succeed. Grant: Agree. Energetic, upbeat.

### **GM REPORT AND GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- Should we run the full Democracy Now! 2-hour shows during the Republican and Democratic national conventions? Robert: Too late for the RNC, but yes. Michelle: Agree, but is it unfair that we did not cover the extra hour during the RNC? David: Abrupt if you cut off the second hour when the listener expects it. Michelle: Does Democracy Now! have both a 1-hour and 2-hour version of the show? Robert: The two hours are separate and self-contained. Shows are archived on [democracynow.org](http://democracynow.org). There is no equal-time requirement, and we didn’t have time to vote on the extra hour of the RNC convention. Playing it is doing a service to the community. Kim: To be fair, provide links to coverage of both conventions.

### **Comments on current programming**

- Grant: All-station meeting August 18 at the Butte Country library.
- Grant: Chris Hill passed his certification test for “Hits Different.”

**Next meeting:** Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 5pm, **via Zoom**

### **Tasks to be done post-meeting**

- Grant will request a demo from Scott Pressman.
- Grant will notify the morning programmers about the extra hour of Democracy Now!
- Grant will advise the Board of Directors Executive Committee of the outcome of the discussions about Sanjay and Phil. Grant will prepare a draft statement to send to A. Trider.
- Grant will make sure there is a disclaimer card in the studio.

Adjourn 6:29pm

Respectfully submitted,  
David Fuhs, Secretary

