

WTTW COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

NOTES of the PUBLIC MEETING of the
WTTW Community Advisory Board (CAB)

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

WTTW Studios, 5400 N. St. Louis Ave., Chicago, Illinois

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:22 PM with a quorum present.

The following CAB members were present: Chairman Joseph Morris (Chair); Secretary Rita Tandaric; Barbara Cragan; Maryileen Blondell, Joe Bosco, Leatrice Campbell, Dr. Simuel Hampton; Susan Ivers; Linda Jackson, Gene Koprowski; Nancy Koprowski, Peter Kraus; Sinhue Mendoza; Lennette Meredith; Mary Lou Mockus; Nancy Simon, Carlton Triolo-Sapp, Dr. Sheila M. Wicks, Carmella Wimberly.

Note the following CAB members were absent: Vice Chairman Kimberly Frost, Yvonne Johnson; Aaron Lawler; Sharon Meroni; Maggie Steinz; Dr. Herbert Sohn, Bruce Sutchar; Nyan Tucker.

The following persons also were present: Dan Soles, WTTW's Senior Vice President and Chief Television Content Officer and CAB's management liaison; Tim Russell, new VP of WTTW Community Engagement, and Yvonne Davis, Administrative Assistant to "Chicago Tonight" and Staff Liaison.

And, the following members of the public were present: Katie Koprowski, Kristin Mount, Justin Omokaye (Wimberly), Iqbal Shariff.

The Chair called the meeting to order and stated that the meeting is the Annual Meeting at which, under the by-laws, the annual election is the first order of business. Per the by-laws nine seats are up for election for three-year terms. The officers will also be elected. The Chair then recorded the quorum and asked everyone to give a brief self-introduction.

The Chair moved to a Meeting of the Whole and turned the meeting over to Mr. Bosco, the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, for a briefing on how the election would be conducted.

On behalf of the Chairman of the Membership Committee, Ms. Meredith, Mr. Bosco introduced Kristen Mount and Iqbal Shariff as potential candidates for the CAB and asked that each introduce themselves and explain their interest in the CAB.

Mr. Shariff explained that he has experience with a not-for-profit organization and is Muslim, and therefore bringing a new element of diversity to the CAB. He has a diverse knowledge of culture and business. He owns and operates Best Home Health Care and knows Ms. Campbell from the business as she is a nurse with the company. Ms. Campbell spoke about the operation of the business and the service it provides to the community.

Mr. Bosco then introduced Ms. Mount. Ms. Mount stated that she is a lifelong Chicagoan, a fan of WTTW. Her parents moved to Chicago in the 1950s and her father was a sportswriter and an editor at Playboy Magazine. The Chair asked if her father was Anson Mount; he was. The Chair knew him and remarked that he was a highly regarded writer on sports

and other topics. Her children attend public school in Chicago; she is a professional medical illustrator and teaches at the American Academy of Art. She has a graduate degree from University of Illinois at Chicago in medical illustration and is on the faculty as a research advisor, helping graduate students finish their graduate studies. Ms. Mount lives in the Albany Park neighborhood and plays banjo, guitar, and mandolin.

Mr. Bosco then asked for CAB member comments about the new candidates. The Chair commented that there are nine seats open for election, the members of the Class of 2019 whose three-year terms of office are ending. The Nominating Committee is nominating 8 of the 9 incumbent individuals – not renominating the absent Ms. Johnson – with Mr. Shariff to fill the 9th slot on the ballot. The Chair summarized that 8 of the 9 incumbents plus Mr. Shariff make up the ballot. Ms. Mount will be considered for a future vacancy. Mr. Bosco explained that there is another vacancy. Ms. Meredith explained that Mr. Nyan Tucker has not responded to repeated contacts from Ms. Meredith and has not been present at a meeting since June 2018 and has not submitted a letter of resignation. The Chair mentioned that the CAB also has Dr. Wicks' attendance issue carried over from the February meeting, and noted that Dr. Wicks is present. The Chair suggested that the CAB proceed to the election of the nine 2019 seats and then address Mr. Tucker and Dr. Wicks' attendance issues. If after that discussion there is a vacancy it can be considered before proceeding to the election of officers.

Ms. Meredith asked if the Chair has received a resignation from Ms. Frost. The Chair answered that no resignation has been received and that he anticipates that Ms. Frost will resign but had made a comment that she would prefer to resign in person.

The Chair moved from a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to the plenary public meeting of the CAB. The meeting was reconvened and moved to the election of the slate. The Nominating Committee nominated Ms. Ivers, Ms. Koprowski, Ms. Meredith, Ms. Mockus, Mr. Morris, Ms. Simon, Dr. Sohn (absent and ill) and Ms. Wimberly, all incumbents, plus Mr. Shariff, each to serve a three-year term on the CAB expiring at the annual meeting in 2022. The Chair stated there are nine candidates for CAB membership, no second is required, and called for any additional nominations. There being none, the Chair asked for a motion that would instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the nine nominees. Mr. Koprowski no moved, seconded by Mr. Triolo-Sapp. The Chair called for a vote and the matter carried unanimously, thus electing the nine candidates.

The Chair then addressed Mr. Tucker's violation of the mandatory attendance requirement of the by-laws. The Chair explained the by-law by stating that with only 6 meetings per year, regular attendance is required to accomplish the CAB's business. Mr. Tucker's status is that he has not attended since June 2018 and is in violation of the attendance requirement. The Chair asked Ms. Meredith if Mr. Tucker had been contacted. Ms. Meredith answered that she has sent multiple messages. The Chair asked if it is the motion of the Nominating Committee to recommend that Mr. Tucker be removed from membership. Ms. Meredith answered yes. The Chair asked for a second; Ms. Ivers so seconded. The Chair opened the matter for discussion. Ms. Jackson asked if Mr. Tucker has responded to any messages. Ms. Meredith said that Mr. Tucker indicated in December that he wished to continue on the CAB. However, Mr. Tucker's non-attendance has continued.

The Chair called for a vote on removing Mr. Tucker from the CAB. The motion was passed unanimously and Mr. Tucker was removed from the CAB.

The Chair moved to the issue of Dr. Wicks' attendance, which was set forth in the Membership Committee's report at the February 12th meeting, at which no quorum was present, and therefore no action could be taken at that meeting. As

of February 12th Dr. Wicks was in violation of the mandatory minimum attendance requirement. The Chair asked if Dr. Wicks, now present, would like to explain the absences and persuade the CAB of mitigating circumstances. Dr. Wicks explained that her father suffers from Alzheimer's and that she has been involved in transferring him from one facility to another. At the same time, Dr. Wicks was also asked to speak at Harvard Medical School and has been travelling to Boston. The Chair thanked Dr. Wicks and further explained the purpose behind the by-law. The Chair commented that Dr. Wicks' attendance at this meeting speaks favorably to retention. The Chair asked Ms. Meredith if she wished to wipe the slate clean and retain Dr. Wicks on the CAB. Ms. Meredith answered yes, that she wished to start again and retain Dr. Wicks.

Ms. Blondell asked Dr. Wicks to clarify a statement Dr. Wicks made during self-introductions in which she stated that she wished to promote her business. Dr. Wicks clarified this by stating that she was drawn to the CAB because she has previous experience in television and experience teaching about alternative medicine. Mr. Koprowski supported the proposal to retain Dr. Wicks. Mr. Bosco asked Dr. Wicks if she had other community involvement. Dr. Wicks answered that she is active in her church. Ms. Campbell supported the retention proposal. The Chair put forth Mr. Koprowski's motion to retain Dr. Wicks, seconded by Ms. Campbell. The Chair asked for a vote. The retention was unanimously approved.

The Chair then noted that the Tucker removal created a vacancy. Mr. Tucker was a member of the Class of 2021, elected in 2018. The Chair asked if Mr. Bosco had a nomination for the vacancy. Mr. Bosco answered yes and nominated Ms. Kristen Mount. The Chair asked for other nominations for the Tucker vacancy. There being none, and given that no second of the Nominating Committee's nomination was required, the Chair asked for a motion to direct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of Ms. Mount to the CAB. Ms. Ivers so moved, and Ms. Jackson seconded. The Chair called for a vote and the motion was carried unanimously.

Ms. Meredith asked if Aaron Lawler was in attendance at the present meeting. The Chair answered no. Ms. Meredith commented that she has not been in touch with Mr. Lawler. The Chair asked Ms. Meredith to contact Mr. Lawler and inform him that he is in danger of removal. Ms. Cragan asked if failure to attend re-scheduled meetings should be counted against CAB members. The Chair answered that the by-laws make provision for the possibility of re-scheduled meetings so the attendance policy continues to apply.

The Chair summarized that with the election of the nine CAB members, the retention of Dr. Wicks, and the replacement of Mr. Tucker with Ms. Mount, the CAB is at a full membership capacity of 27 members.

The Chair identified the next order of business as the election of officers for the next year and asked Mr. Bosco if he had a nominee for the office of Chairman. Mr. Bosco answered that the Nominating Committee proposes that the three current officers be nominated for another term, specifically, Mr. Morris for Chairman, Ms. Frost for Vice Chairman, and Ms. Tandarcic for Secretary. The Chair asked for additional nominees for the officer positions. Mr. Kraus asked if Ms. Mockus would possibly be nominated as Vice Chair given the apparent impending resignation of Ms. Frost as Vice Chair. The Chair answered that such would be addressed when a resignation is received. Mr. Bosco said that the Nominating Committee would be prepared to address the issue at the next meeting. The Chair, noting that there were no other officer nominations, asked for a motion to instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the election of the officer slate as nominated. Dr. Hampton so moved, seconded by Mr. Koprowski. The vote was unanimous in favor of election of the officers. Such completed the business of the annual meeting. The Chair returned to the regular agenda of the plenary meeting.

One of the items carried forward from the February meeting was commentary on the passing of WTTW trustee Barbara Proctor who was a longtime trustee liaison to the CAB. Dr. Wicks knew Ms. Proctor. The Chair called on Dr. Wicks to share her thoughts about Ms. Proctor. During her college years Dr. Wicks met Ms. Proctor who frequently opened her home to entertainers and celebrities and was very supportive of students. The Chair commented that Ms. Proctor was a humane and energetic person and she was a dynamo in her industry – the public relations industry. She was a strong source of encouragement to the CAB and she will be greatly missed.

The next item on the agenda is consideration of the minutes of the non-meeting in February 2019. Ms. Ivers mentioned one correction which was agreed upon. The Chair asked for a motion to adopt the corrected minutes. Mr. Bosco so moved, seconded by Ms. Ivers. The motion was approved unanimously. Secretary Tandaric reminded the Chair that the minutes of the October meeting had not been adopted due to the lack of a quorum in February. The Chair concurred and asked if there were any corrections or additions to the October minutes. Hearing none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the October minutes. Ms. Cragan so moved, seconded by Mr. Koprowski. The minutes of the meeting of October 18, 2018 were approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the agenda for the current meeting. The Chair proposed adopting the agenda unless an objection was received. There being none, the agenda was adopted.

The next item on the agenda was the public comment period. After the elections earlier in the meeting the only members of the public present are Katie Koprowski and Justin Omokaye (Wimberly); the Chair asked if either had comments for the CAB. Ms. Koprowski suggested that the CAB should investigate the possibility that WTTW educational programs be posted on YouTube. The Chair responded that the CAB's strategic plan report to WTTW's new president, Sandra Cordova Micek, included such a suggestion that had been inspired precisely by earlier public comments made by Ms. Koprowski herself. The Chair has been informed that the strategic planning process is nearing its end and commented that he expects that Mr. Soles will be discussing the project's progress in his upcoming comments.

The Chair asked Mr. Soles if he'd like to comment at this time. Mr. Soles stated that WTTW does have a YouTube channel and programs such as "Chicago Tonight" are available there. He further commented that they are hoping to have more content available on YouTube TV. There are negotiations in progress with a number of PBS stations regarding having content available 24 hours a day and it's likely to be available in the Fall of 2019. The station wants to be in that space and to be anywhere the viewers are. YouTube TV is growing and WTTW wants to be there.

Mr. Omokaye (Wimberly) had no comments for the CAB.

Ms. Mockus asked if a person needs to know that WTTW exists in order to find it on YouTube. Mr. Soles responded that YouTube TV is available without a satellite or cable connection. For a subscriber fee all content is available to the subscriber. There are only a few thousand subscribers in Chicago, but Mr. Soles expects that number to grow substantially as more people "cut the cord" and abandon cable and satellite TV services. Mr. Soles also mentioned that the WTTW.com app provides access to many PBS programs and most of WTTW's local programming, including live streaming of "Chicago Tonight".

Ms. Ivers asked for clarification about YouTube, asking if the YouTube channel is free while YouTube TV is a subscription service. Mr. Soles agreed and clarified that the subscription to YouTube TV also provides access to CBS, NBC, and many other channels.

Ms. Campbell asked that that Mr. Soles keep the CAB informed about progress on the YouTube TV matter. Mr. Soles agreed to do so.

Chairman's Statement: The next item on the agenda is the Chairman's Report. The Chair commented that the February meeting without a quorum was the first such occurrence in his 10 years on the CAB. The lack of a quorum is a hardship when the CAB meets only 6 times each year. Several important matters had to be deferred until the next meeting, including preparing several program proposals. Mr. Kraus has presented several issues that he believes that WTTW should cover, including research and resources. The issues are of great importance to Mr. Kraus and may not be of the same level of interest to other members of the CAB. Nevertheless, Mr. Kraus has put in the time and has followed the rubric set forth by the CAB's Programming Committee, and, in doing so, has done exactly what all members of the CAB should be doing. Where are the programming proposals from the rest of the CAB members? Mr. Kraus' action should be held as an example or a model to the rest of the members. That goal should be kept in mind.

The Chair also reminded everyone that the CAB speaks best to the Board of Trustees and station management through its reports, whether annual reports or special reports. In the past, annual reports have dealt with a variety of issues, including the handling of the mayoral forum issue in the election of 2015, and commentary on the station's journalistic standards, as well as the recent strategic planning report. It's only a few months before CAB will be looking at the 2019 annual report.

Finally, the Chair, in response to the discussions held at the December retreat meeting, in which the CAB met to consider ways it could be more effective in its work, has proposed a list of CAB committees and has outlined their jurisdictions. The committees are an excellent way to accomplish work outside the public plenary meetings. The committees have the flexibility of meeting by telephone and email. The Chair is asking for volunteers to staff these committees. The Chair then introduced the chairs of the various committees. Ms. Meredith chairs the Membership Committee. Mr. Bosco chairs the Nominating Committee. The Community Engagement Committee has previously been chaired by Ms. Meroni (absent tonight), and a new chair is needed. Ms. Wimberly volunteered to chair the Community Engagement Committee. The Programming Committee is co-chaired by Ms. Cragan and Mr. Bosco. The Education Committee has been chaired by Ms. Steinz who has stepped away from the chair. CAB also needs a chair for the Cultural Committee. While the Education Committee is concerned with the educational needs of the community, the Cultural Committee has its eye on the cultural needs of the community, which could prove to be limitless. Ms. Blondell volunteered to Chair the Cultural Committee. The Digital and Interactive Media Committee is responsible for the non-broadcasting methods of communication with the public, such as the WTTW website, which has become increasingly important to the station. While WTTW is increasingly viewed as a global medium, its responsibility is first and foremost to the Chicagoland area. It doesn't hurt to occasionally remind the station of this. The Journalism Committee needs a chair. Mr. Koprowski volunteered to chair the Journalism Committee. Mr. Triolo-Sapp volunteered to chair the Digital and Interactive Media Committee. The Station and Administrative Finance Committee needs a chair. The Chair will be in touch with the committee chairs.

Ms. Campbell commended Mr. Kraus on his program proposals.

Trustees' Liaison Report: Mr. Gonzalez was not present. No report was received.

Management Liaison Report: The Chair called on Mr. Soles for the Management Liaison Report. Mr. Soles explained that the Community Screenings are mapped out for the rest of the year. "Leaps of Faith" is first and is a study of Catholic and Jewish marriages; the discussion panel had to be split into two to accommodate all who wanted to participate. In June,

“The Lavender Scare” is about government workers who were forced out of jobs due to their sexuality in the McCarthy era, and was the start of the civil rights movement for the LGBTQ community. “Adios Amor” is the story of Maria Moreno, who was one of the first to lobby for farm worker’s rights. She laid the groundwork for civil rights for farm workers. The film took several years to complete. In September “The Feeling of Being Watched” is about surveillance in the Bridgeview area. In October there will be a new PBS series called “The Retro Report” which will be a combination of news and history, and which will try to give historical context to current events. The station is planning an event around this series launch. Details to follow. The final for the year is a Lynn Novick film, “College Behind Bars”, about a New York program to educate prisoners and prepare them for life beyond prison and avoiding repeat offenses.

The Strategic Planning process is in budget mode now. A report will be presented to the Board of Trustees at its June meeting. Once the meeting has occurred, Mr. Soles will be able to discuss it at a CAB meeting, probably in August, and perhaps with President Micek in attendance. Mr. Soles feels this has been a productive process which has brought teams together.

In the Online space, Season 2 of “Urban Nature” visits the Everglades (outside Miami), Chicago, and Austin, Texas. Also, on air, “Stage Players” is about persons involved in the theatre – a broad, diverse group of individuals who make theatre happen.

Ms. Campbell commented on the “Independent Lens” film about the Mexican vineyard workers in California. It was very well done and should be shown when more people will see it.

Dr. Wicks asked if the station would be covering the mayoral inauguration. Mr. Soles said that the entire “Chicago Tonight” hour on inauguration day would be devoted to the inauguration and that the actual ceremony would be streamed live on the website.

Ms. Ivers thanked Mr. Soles for the list of upcoming screenings. She reminded everyone to RSVP if planning to attend any of them.

Mr. Soles yielded the balance of his time to Tim Russell, the new Vice President of Community Engagement. Mr. Soles explained that Mr. Russell joined the station in 2018; he brings a new, fresh perspective, and has made many contributions already.

Mr. Russell introduced himself as coming from Oberlin, Ohio and relayed interesting facts about Oberlin. He gave a brief corporate bio (also given in February) and has always been a fan of PBS.

Many items discussed by the CAB will find a way into the strategic plan. There was a recent screening of “Boss: The Black Experience in Business”. There was a powerhouse panel and much positive feedback. Several segments appeared on YouTube. Part of the goal is to move from the studio and into the community.

A new initiative being launched is “Remake Learning Days” to get children engaged in STEM and Art. The first event will be in the Austin community. Nature Cat will be there and will head science activities based on the show. Additional events will occur in Evanston and Pilsen and at the Garfield Park Conservatory. There will be special events for the 50th Anniversary of “Sesame Street”.

Dr. Hampton asked if CAB members could be provided with a list of upcoming events so that CAB members could share the information with their networks. Ms. Blondell mentioned that the “Nature Cat” events are listed on the website. Ms. Wimberly asked about obtaining the rights to “Schoolhouse Rock.” Mr. Soles explained that “Schoolhouse Rock” belongs

to Disney and is therefore unavailable to PBS. However, the commitment to children remains strong with 12 hours of programming on the main channel Monday through Friday.

Ms. Blondell asked about the background of "Nature Cat". Mr. Soles explained that it is produced by Spiffy Pictures, located in the northern suburbs. WTTW is the presenting station and the show is typically ranked three or four in rankings of all PBS shows. It is very popular and does very well.

The Chair asked if it would be possible to arrange a tour of the studios for new CAB members. Mr. Soles agreed and suggested that later in the Fall would be a good time as there is a planned production scheduled that may interest CAB members.

Programming Committee: For the benefit of new CAB members, Ms. Cragan explained the functioning of the Program Committee. Ideas for new programming are submitted to the committee co-chairs (Mr. Cragan and Mr. Bosco) for review. The rubric is then forwarded to the entire committee for comment. Most work is done via email; comments and changes are submitted via email and committee members are encouraged to "reply all" on all discussion emails. The WTTW archives are searched to determine whether or how often the suggested subject matter has been addressed in the past. Once the committee comes to an agreement on the proposal it will be presented to the entire CAB.

Ms. Cragan believes that the committee needs additional members to review proposals. She feels that it is not enough for the co-chairs to be the only ones to review new proposals. As a result, Mr. Kraus' proposals being presented at this meeting are being presented without a formal recommendation from the committee as only one response was received from a committee member. The proposals were sent to the committee members and the CAB officers.

Mr. Kraus explained that he believes that there is an ongoing medical crisis that major media is not reporting, and which Mr. Kraus believes is because major media receives much of its revenue from pharmaceutical companies.

One issue is the autism epidemic. It is predicted that by 2025 fifty percent of all children born will be diagnosed with some form of autism. The prediction is extrapolated from statistics issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Additionally, half of children suffer from sort of chronic illness. Mr. Kraus believes that this should be reported by to do if it can tolerate antagonism from the pharmaceutical industry. While WTTW has reported on autism over the past months, there has been no reporting on the possible causation, and no reporting on the possible connection to vaccines.

There will be a conference in Chicago at the end of May which expert speakers from around the world will attend. One is Robert Kennedy Jr., who represents Children's Health Defense, which tries to make known the evidence that vaccines contribute to health problems. Also attending is Dr. Stephanie Seneff, a senior research scientist from MIT, whose work focuses on the evidence that glyphosate (an herbicide found in Round-up) may play a role in the causation of autism.

Other speakers include Mary Holland, JD, who has written on the HPV vaccine and its effects on the vaccine recipients. Dr. Janet Ferguson has researched and will speak on the estimated costs of raising children with autism, which could rise into the trillions. Finally, Professor Yehuda Schoenfeld, co-author of "Vaccines and Autoimmunity" will speak at the conference on the connection between vaccines and the incidence of autoimmune diseases, which currently affect an estimated 23.5 million Americans. Mr. Kraus believes these issues are on par with the opioid epidemic and are not being reported to the public.

The Chair asked about the procedural process. Ms. Cragan stated that she and co-chair Bosco did not feel it was appropriate for only two people to pass judgment on these proposals. The Chair understands that the CAB members have not had a chance to digest all of the information presented and noted that several members wished to speak to the question. Dr. Wicks commented that these are sensitive topics. There will also be questions about genetics. Testing is

done by blood work and there are liability issues. Many children are banned from activities when they are perceived to be a threat to other children. It might be necessary to have a panelist to discuss genetics.

Ms. Meredith asked about the measles epidemic due to children not being vaccinated and commented that she was never vaccinated for measles and suffered a hearing loss when she was infected with German measles, and additionally suffers from an autoimmune disease, and mentioned again that she was never vaccinated for measles. She believes that there should also be a discussion about what can happen when a person is not vaccinated. Mr. Kraus responded that pediatrician Paul Thomas has written a book discussing the practice of giving smaller vaccine doses over a longer period of time than what is recommended by the CDC, and that those children have a lower incidence of autism. The book is The Vaccine Friendly Plan by Paul Thomas. Mr. Kraus also pointed out that vaccines recommended by the CDC have not been tested against true placebos.

Ms. Ivers stated that she believes that the CAB needs more time to review these proposals. She asked what form Mr. Kraus envisions the proposals taking – a full program, or a segment on “Chicago Tonight”, or something else. Mr. Kraus answered that he felt interviews on “Chicago Tonight” either in person or remotely connected would be good. Ms. Ivers then asked why Mr. Kraus chose these five persons rather than just recommend the entire conference as a source. Mr. Kraus answered that there are probably 40-50 speakers scheduled for the conference. He thought that these were probably the best. Ms. Ivers noted that the Lessing lecture proposal also made by Mr. Kraus was not included in the current presentation and asked if it is a separate matter. Mr. Kraus answered that the Lessing lecture material is a separate matter.

Ms. Simon suggested that the issue should be balanced. Ms. Wimberly felt that the proposals overstepped a bit in that WTTW producers will conduct their own research and fact-checking, but she was not suggesting that the proposals should not be forwarded.

Mr. Koprowski has no problem submitting the proposals to Mr. Soles for forwarding to Mary Field, but he wondered if the CAB would appear unscientific by not presenting other views. For instance, the National Center for Catholic Bioethics says that the theory that autism being caused by vaccinations is not credible science.

Ms. Campbell noted that there are many lawyers involved in cases concerning Round-up. She commented that she cannot be near the product as it brings on an asthma attack.

Mr. Triolo-Sapp asked exactly what the CAB is trying to achieve through this discussion.

The Chair answered that the question is whether the CAB wants to take up Mary Field’s time to research these proposals for the possibility of presenting programming. This is a highly debatable subject. Just this day there was an op-ed piece in the New York Times about the benefits of measles and polio vaccinations over the years. The strongest case in favor in Mr. Kraus’ proposals is that in the next few weeks there will be a major conference in the Chicago area at which a number of well-credentialed individuals will be present to discuss at least one side of the debate. It may merit the attention of the WTTW newsroom, and does CAB perform a service by bringing this to their attention and allowing them to exercise their journalistic judgment on the matter? If CAB waits until the next meeting, the conference will have come and gone. The Chair further stated that the question before the CAB is rather simple: Does CAB forward these proposals to Mary Field and allow her to exercise her journalistic judgment?

Ms. Mockus believes that autism did not exist for her children. It has mushroomed in recent years. In the past, vaccinations were given to babies over a period of months without adverse effects. Today it seems that drugs have been

rushed to market. The questions deserve thoughtful consideration. The presentation should be balanced. She stated that the station could do worse than devote an evening to a discussion of these issues.

Mr. Koprowski moved that the materials be forwarded to Mary Field with a preamble summarizing the disputes on the matter.

Ms. Ivers asked Mr. Kraus had he had forwarded any of these proposals to Mary Field. Mr. Kraus answered that he had not done so. Ms. Ivers then seconded Mr. Koprowski's motion that the proposals be forwarded to Mary Field along with introductory commentary by the Chair.

Ms. Wimberly felt that the matter was getting out of hand. The proposals should be forwarded without additional comment. The Chair responded that he would send the proposals with a cover that the proposals are submitted for Ms. Field's consideration and that the CAB is not attempting to pass judgment on the merits but submit them for Ms. Field's independent journalistic judgment.

Ms. Campbell commented that Ms. Field has repeatedly told the CAB to submit ideas.

Ms. Simon asked if the proposals should be shortened somehow. The general consensus was to submit them as is and let Ms. Field make a decision.

Mr. Shariff believes that the statistics raise a lot of questions and it would be interesting to see how the public reacts to it.

The Chair re-framed the issue: Shall he forward these proposals to Mary Field along with all of Mr. Kraus' work, so that her staff can decide on how, or if, to proceed?

Mr. Kraus cautioned that the issues could bring controversy. The Chair said that would not be a problem as controversy brings viewers.

The Chair called for a vote on the Koprowski-Ivers motion. The matter passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business: The Chair asked Mr. Kraus if he had any other issues that had not been addressed at this meeting. Mr. Kraus answered that he had previously sent to the Chair a list of topics that he believes are underreported. The Chair asked that Mr. Kraus re-send the document and that it would be included in the June meeting's agenda.

Ms. Campbell asked if there had ever been a resolution to the Content Acquisition proposal. The Chair thanked Ms. Campbell for mentioning it and answered that the matter had not been resolved. The Chair will add it to the June agenda.

Ms. Ivers asked for clarification on the committees and whether the CAB is voting on the existence of the committees or the existence of the committees and the descriptions of the committee responsibilities. The Chair answered that CAB would vote on both. The Chair then asked for a motion to adopt the committee structure and description of responsibilities. Ms. Blondell interjected that she thought the CAB had already decided this in December. The Chair explained that the December meeting was a retreat, so no action was taken. The matter was presented in February but there was no quorum, so no vote was taken. Mr. Koprowski motioned to accept this committee structure proposal; Ms. Mockus seconded. The Chair asked for any debate. Ms. Ivers asked about the Program Committee and whether the CAB intends for the Program Committee to continue to submit program proposals. Ms. Cragan agreed that this is a very good question. Ms. Cragan feels that the current Programming Committee methods are not an effective way to operate. She feels the mission of the CAB requires that the CAB bring feedback to the station about the effectiveness of its

programming, which is different than submitting program proposals. Ms. Campbell interjected that this is where the Content Acquisition proposal is needed. The Chair re-read the proposed Program Committee description: *“The Program Committee is responsible for receiving, developing, and refining proposals for content-creation and content acquisition by WTTW (for possible dissemination over any and all platforms) and for presenting meritorious proposals for consideration by the full CAB for recommendation to station management.”* An interpretive discussion ensued, debating whether the description allowed for providing feedback on WTTW’s actual programming based on comments received by CAB members. Ms. Ivers commented that the description seems to allow for the handling of programming proposals exclusively.

The Chair suggested that there is no pressing need to decide this issue tonight and suggested that Ms. Cragan, Mr. Bosco and Ms. Ivers work to refine the description of the Program Committee and that the CAB take up the debate at the June meeting. Ms. Cragan commented that the Program Committee really needs more members who may also have input on this issue. Ms. Mockus brought to the Chair’s attention that the relevant CAB by-law specifically reads: *“The Programming Committee is a standing committee and shall be responsible for the development and analysis of programming proposals as well as other activities that may be directed by the Chairperson.”* The Chair noted that the explicit mission is related to program proposals and that the final clause creates a huge safety valve to allow for other activities. The explicit mission is programming proposals. Ms. Blondell suggested that CAB work could run in a more defined manner if the Chair would start every meeting by reminding everyone of the CAB’s mission.

The Chair suggested that the committee descriptions motion be tabled until the next meeting.

New Business:

None.

Good and Welfare:

The Chair noted that Dr. Sohn is remains hospitalized. His mind remains keen, but his body is failing.

Ms. Campbell mentioned that her daughter changed professions after being inspired by “Check Please”. Her daughter left the corporate world to become a chef in Arizona. She has opened a catering business and she has written a book about bringing elegance back to the table in a cost-effective manner. Ms. Campbell brought a copy of the book to pass around. The book launching is at the end of the month in Arizona.

Ms. Campbell’s niece has graduated *magna cum laude* from Howard University; she was a Dean’s List student all four years.

Mr. Koprowski has a staged reading of his latest play entitled “The Lone Gunman Theory”, a national security thriller, on May 29th at the Greenhouse Theatre.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Next Public CAB Meeting: Tuesday, June 18, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Rita E. Tandoric, Secretary

Attachments: