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WTTW Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting Report for regular Meeting Tuesday, October 10, 2006

ATTENDING

Thom Clark – Chair; Bruce Beckman – Vice-Chair; Howard Denton – Co-Chair, Outreach Committee; Elizabeth Harano – Chair, Program Committee

Raymond Broady, Barbara Cragan, Greg Clemons, Janice Goldstein, Redd Griffin, Earl and Jane Henrickson, Susan Jordan, Mary Lou Mockus, Evelyn Nieves, Mary McSweeny Stiglich, Norma Sutton

WTTW: V. J. McAleer

ABSENT

Joyce Calvin, Gary Durochik, Sergio and Maria Gallegos, Lennette Meredith, Harold Moore, Joseph Morris, Olga Nelson, Arlette Porter, Lorenzo Vazquez, Donna Yuen, Sidney Zwick

Barbara Proctor, WTTW Board Liaison

Call to Order: 6:15 pm

Roll Call: Introductions were made.

Minutes: Approval of Minutes from August 8, 2006

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Chair (T. Clark): Creation of website for nationwide CABS to communicate – still pending.

Vice Chair (B. Beckman): No Report

Membership (L. Meredith): No Report

Program (E. Harano): The Program Committee met in September, 2006.

1. Reference/Resource Guide: The Committee is in the process of creating a resource/reference guide which will include people who may be used for speakers and/or who can provide background information for programs, i.e., "Chicago Tonight". The guide will contain contact information; topic specialty and other helpful information for producers. The topics for the guide are the top five (5) topics which the CAB determined to be important at an earlier meeting. T. Clark will email CAB members the topic(rankings) considered from the previous meeting.

2. Programming Ideas: The Committee also discussed other programming ideas: "Favorite Vacation Spots" (based on the "Check Please" format); and discussion on international adoptions.

3. T. Clark asked the Committee to review a DVD/Video of a Minnesota funding model to see if it has any applicability to our CAB.

4. Next Committee Meeting: 2nd Tuesday in November, 2006.

Outreach (H.Denton):

1. The Committee consists of Howard Denton, Lorenzo Vazquez, and two other CAB members. They are actively looking for other CAB members to participate in this Committee; and reviewing their goals and objectives.

2. This Committee is exploring doing a joint project with the WTTW Board of Trustee Community

Engagement Committee. Barbara Proctor, the Board liaison is working closely with this Committee. The Committee would like to have 2 community/outreach meetings in the next year.

3. The Committee is also looking at the WBEZ public radio town hall meetings as an outreach model. Thom C had a lunch with the Chair of the WBEZ Community Advisory Board who stated that they are still struggling with increasing public participation.

4. Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 8, 2006, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Location: Chicago Fire Department Academy (address TBD).

New Business

1. Thom C would like to have a dinner or luncheon meeting with the "Executive Committee" of CAB. The Executive Committee is generally made up of officers and committee chairs. He believes this would be helpful as CAB looks 6-12 months down the road. He will try and schedule this meeting for the end of October or early November.

2. Thom C also wanted to know if CAB was interested in participating in one pledge night. The response was overwhelmingly "yes". Pledge weeks generate 12% of WTTW's budget.

Trustee Liaison (B. Proctor): No report

Management Feedback (V. J. McAleer):

1. V. J. reported that Governor Blagojevich backed out of the WTTW scheduled debate with Tres. Judy Baar Topinka. He also stated that the station hopes to have a scheduled debate with the Cook County Board Presidential candidates; and the station a candidates' forum for the Congressional races where candidates will be given two minutes to speak to the voters.

2. Programming: New show is upcoming "Grannies on Safari" which features two African-American women who traveled the world. This program starts October 14, 2006.

The Illinois Arts Council commissioned a documentary about the importance of arts in a community. The result is an upcoming documentary, entitled "Beauty Rises: 4 lives in the Arts" which WTTW produced. CAB members viewed a clip of this documentary featuring Orbett Davis, noted musician. It was suggested that this documentary would be outreach effort if WTTW could get it into schools.

WTTW will soon launch an arts website.

3. Chicago Tonight: V. J. was interested in any comments on the "Commentaries" added to the Chicago Tonight show. He stated that Commentaries generate a lot of mail. There are two commentators who contribute on a regular basis: Mancow and Debra Pickett.

4. There are meetings planned with WBEX, and the Library on the topic of immigration.

5. WTTW did acknowledge the death of Gene Janson (died on state in play "The Best Man") who was one of WTTW's best known pledge talents.

Public Comment:

CAB has not received any response to letter sent to Corporation for Public Broadcasting; neither has the WTTW Board.

Next Meeting: December 12, 2006 at 6:00 pm

Adjournment: 7:25 pm