

## Community Advisory Board of WMNF 88.5 FM

Meeting of March 25, 2016

### Attendance

Name	Committee Role	Station Affiliation	Present (P/A)
Laura Keane	Chair	BOD	P
Craig Kopp	General Manager	BOD/WMNF	P
Lillian Dunlap	New Member	CAB	P
Ashley Brundage	New Member	CAB	P
Alex Manus	Member	CAB	A
Mario Nunez	Member	CAB	A
Mike Reedy	Member	CAB	A
Ken Skillman	Member	CAB	A
Chimurenga Waller	Member	CAB	A

1. Call to Order – Chair calls to order at 1:10 pm
2. Acknowledge Guests: none
3. Overview of CAB and Introductions by Craig Kopp

4. Introductions of new members

Dr. Lillian Dunlap, Artistic Director & Founder of Your Real Stories, a non-profit specializing in story-telling across multiple platforms to encourage discussions across differences, and also CEO of Communications Research Enterprises, a communications consulting firm, which develops diversity training and programs.

Ashley Brundage, PNC financial professional and president of Tampa Bay Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, works with numerous non-profits in the community.

5. Format Explanation: Each Member is asked to delineate issues in the community they feel are not getting proper attention, why these issues are important and any suggestions for improved coverage by WMNF

6. Issues:

\* LGBT discrimination in legislation that encourage transgender discrimination. Hillsborough County, Pinellas County, and the City of St. Pete have human rights ordinances but laws statewide can supersede any local efforts. Fear in transgender community is they will convene special session to address these issues or try to tag along with another bill. There are currently more than 45 of these discriminatory legislations across 18 states. Issue comes down to use of bathrooms.

Bigger issue is good that comes from human rights ordinances, laws which allow people be their authentic selves and puts them in a position to better contribute to community. Local media coverage of this sector of community? Stock images used to create a sensational spin.

Marriage Equality Act has driven the push towards transgender discrimination.

What can we do to bring public consciousness up to speed? Bring more realness to transgender community. What we represent, who we are. Educational pieces, spotlight people in normalistic light – focus on their good work, not sensational stereotypes, 300 USF students in trans-student union; 5000+ in Tampa Bay area; area is already known for inclusiveness.

Does normalizing put an end to bathroom debate? No, but it can start to change image of opponents thinking of trans community as second class citizens.

Stories about people in their ordinary-ness are what we need

We are on same continuum of change. Society is slow to change... and don't forget we are represented by transmen (more transmen in USA than transwomen)

Both sides of the issue need debate. Information needs to be readily available.

Hopeful about journalism because there's a unique role in conversation about different-ness. Have real journalism. Show up and cover the story and learn more about the subject or the topic. Don't go in with preconceived ideas. People are more complex than we realize. Search for that complexity. Know that it's there, put stories in proper context. Listen to people and hear their authentic voice.

Coverage of marginalized communities: African American, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, Women, LGBT; learn something. Spend the time to get past stereotypes.

How did we miss Flint? Ferguson? Not important to your life, so easy to ignore. You don't even know it's missing.

Is there an underground economy/apartheid here? Don't know. City of Tampa more grounded than Sherriff of Hillsborough County (elected official). Bike ticketing in Tampa is "a Ferguson thing."

We need to hear better – beyond listening. We need to act as the voice of the voiceless to power.

Longtime residents of St Pete & Tampa are the ones to pursue for stories. Their stories. Long term perspective. We haven't heard these.

7. Set next meeting date: Thursday, June 30, 2016 at 1:00 pm at the WMNF station.
8. Adjournment – Chair adjourns at 2:00 pm.

Submitted by:  
Laura Keane  
Chair  
Community Advisory Board