

WSPR Board Meeting Notes - April, 6, 2023, 1:00 pm PT

Attending: Kerry Swanson, Tom Michael, Jim Rondeau, Kerry Bringhurst

Kerry Swanson led the meeting, noting the 3/30 WSPR Conversation received positive response and the group considered topics for future discussions. Due to scheduling conflicts, the planned April forum on rural news coverage will be rescheduled on June 29th.

Members discussed spring pledge results and issues station leaders may wish to discuss regarding the future of on-air fundraising. There was discussion of what factors managers should consider when responding to external issues of public interest, such as Twitter's mischaracterization of NPR's independence or network budget & staffing cuts. Consideration was given to hosting "open forum" discussions on some dates, allowing participants to informally exchange ideas and concerns.

The tentative schedule of membership conversations was developed as follows:

May 25 - Community and media collaborations, Kerry Bringhurst

June - Rural news, Tom Michael

July - The role of newsrooms in the preservation of democracy, Kerry Swanson

August - The future of public media fundraising

September - TBD

October - TBD

Kerry Swanson noted that WSPR would need to plan an annual membership meeting and election of officers in fall. There is a possibility that this meeting could be held in conjunction with a Public Radio Regional Organizations meeting in Washington, D.C., but a final determination has not yet been made.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm PT.