

## WSPR Monthly Board Meeting

July 7, 2022, 1:00 pm PT

Attending: Kerry Swanson, Jim Rondeau, Maria O'Mara

- Maria O'Mara joined the meeting to present options for an October WSPR "fly-in."
- The proposed Tuesday-Thursday dates are October 18-20 or October 25-27. Late October may be the best choice to avoid conflict with on-air fundraising.
- Marriott Research Park offers the closest proximity to KUER, but not as many dining or sightseeing options for those wanting to experience Salt Lake City. Airport transportation by car would be required. Marriott offers a variety of banquet options and a room rate of \$140-200/night.
- Hotel Monaco is on the TRAX commuter line from the airport, which Maria considers convenient. It offers a conference rate of \$185/night per room. There are banquet options for breakfast, lunch and dinner, possibly fewer a la carte options.
- There seemed to be agreement that only one conference room would be needed and no breakout sessions.
- There was discussion of a tentative conference schedule, which may include: arrivals on Tuesday, conference on Wednesday, concluding early enough for those who choose to depart Wednesday night. Meals may include Tuesday dinner, Wednesday breakfast and lunch, and a possible closing reception at KUER for those who choose to stay Wednesday evening. Maria shared catering options highlighting foods from local refugee communities. Kerry and Jim agreed that Hotel Monaco may be the most attractive option. Kerry will circulate the information to other board members for their feedback.
- There was discussion of whether a conference fee was needed. There seemed to be agreement that the event was likely within WSPR's budget, with attendees covering their own travel and lodging expenses.
- The need for audiovisual support was discussed, including an option to include members remotely, by Zoom.
- Maria agreed to gather specific pricing information from Hotel Monaco to share with the board.
- Kerry and Jim discussed possible topics, including the status of the NPR Network Initiative and audience building strategies. It was agreed to follow up with the board via email to identify topics and/or guest speakers for the program.
- Once the board agrees on a date, Kerry will send a "save the date" message to membership and solicit feedback on topics of interest.
- The meeting was adjourned approximately 1:40pm PT

Additional conference planning notes from Maria O'Mara, via email 6/22:

Here are two options we like.

- Marriott Research Park is somewhat closer to the University and our station, if anyone wanted a tour on the second day. The rooms are just a little cheaper. Food might be, too. Views are lovely. But it isn't walking- distance close to KUER. And people would have to taxi or Uber up to campus from the airport.
- The Hotel Monaco is very convenient. Folks could take TRAX from the airport directly to the hotel (inexpensive) and people new to the city would find a more interesting environment to explore. It's a nicer hotel overall, also nicer food, I think. TRAX also goes from the hotel directly up to the station, almost drops off at our front door.

Below are some notes and attached are some materials. Looking forward to our conversation on July 7. Happy to take your questions before then via email.

### **10/18-10/20 or 10/25-10/27 (Tues- Thurs)**

#### **\*Marriott Research Park:**

Chris Balun, Director of Sales & Marketing - 801-584-3312  
Salt Lake City Marriott University Park - 480 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City UT 84108

Summit View meeting space available on 10/19 (Wednesday) up to 80 people, beautiful views.

Meeting room rental fee, unless order x amount of food/beverage \* have food/bev minimum dictated by people. 50 people about \$1500 food/bev minimum.

\$140-200 range/room rate per night.

#### **\*Hotel Monaco - Lynda Forbush 801-595-0000**

\$185/night - group rate

Meeting space - \$600 + food/beverage (breakfast & lunch on Wednesday)

Food & beverage menus:

<https://www.monaco-saltlakecity.com/meeting-rooms-salt-lake-city/event-catering-menus/>

Onsite meeting space, catering, Bambara restaurant, located in downtown SLC, close to TRAX.

Dinner on arrival night for group, breakfast & lunch on meeting day/2nd day (served in the conference room)