

WSPR Monthly Board Meeting

November 3, 2022, 1:00 pm PT

Attending: Kerry Swanson, Tom Michael, Jim Rondeau

- There was discussion of the WSPR annual conference & membership meeting, held October 27. The group appreciated the presenters and was pleased with attendance and participation. It was noted that there may be opportunities to build in more interaction in future sessions. There was consideration of continuing some discussion threads, such as developments surrounding the NPR Network initiative and additional experiences with artificial intelligence in fundraising, with WSPR Conversation dates. The group agreed that the program was well executed and discussed the merits of an online meeting vs. in-person events.
- Kerry Swanson shared a proposed survey to assess how WSPR can most effectively represent members. The format would follow a poll prepared by Eastern Region Public Media and it may be helpful to compare responses by region. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/723RPD6> It was suggested the WSPR add a question to solicit suggestions for topics to include in WSPR Conversation sessions. Another additional question may ask members, “what issues do you feel are unique to stations in the western region” that may require attention or advocacy from WSPR. There was discussion of adding more nuanced response options, perhaps a 1-5 scale or a “neutral” choice to better gauge reactions.
- The importance of a SuperRegional conference was discussed, with members agreeing that it provides a valuable opportunity to specialize in issues of public media management and mentorship that may be outside the scope of other industry events. Kerry Swanson will discuss this view with leaders of other regional organizations as a 2023 conference is considered.
- Jim confirmed that he has credentials to manage WSPR’s Squarespace website and will update the board roster, minutes and financial documents following the October board meeting. A cloud drive will be created for officers to share WSPR docs.
- It was noted that there is a remaining question about the terms of WSPR officers, specifically whether a mid-year appointment to the remainder of an unexpired term counts toward term limits stipulated by organization bylaws. Tom suggested creating clarifying language to present to membership for consideration at the 2023 membership meeting.
- The meeting adjourned approximately 1:50pm PT