Public radio for Utah is one month away, station picks program director

Utah's first public radio station, KRCL, is just over a month away from initial broadcasts after waiting out some major delays, according to Stephen Holbrook, who has been spearheading the project and will act as general manager and fund raiser for the station.

Holbrook, who is also a part owner of Lakewood's Home Furnishings and serves as a Democratic legislator from Salt Lake City, said the major delay was caused by an overload at the FCC, who declared a freeze on applications two days after KRCL had submitted theirs. Holbrook said the station's application was part of the overload.

"We had the antenna installed on Farnsworth Peak before the snow fell," said Holbrook. "In fact, in order to do that we had to spend more for it than we intended." But delays meant the antenna was unused through the winter.

"The last obstacle is a piece of equipment called diplexer which was scheduled to be here last December, was just recently shipped so we are looking at another 30 to 40 days. We hope to be broadcasting between June 15 and July 1," said Holbrook.

The biggest headache that accompanied the delays involved the station's dependence on grants for funding. According to Holbrook, 10 applications for grants either had to be resubmitted frequently and the explanations made, or extensions had to be asked for and "of course, I wanted to know all the reasons," Holbrook added.

The board of trustees of the station, headed by Park Nelson, a prominent local attorney and previous Enterpriser "Counterpoint" column along with Holbrook, has also chosen the station's program director. Marty Nimn is a graduate of the University of Utah in journalism and communications who worked in radio broadcasting in such far removed places Abidjan, Ivory Coast, a locally with KLUB radio automation operator, will handle that responsibility.

Nimn served in Ivory Coast in connection with United Nations Ministry of Agriculture broadcast and also worked in Job Corps. Holbrook said the station has already been invited to compete for a Corporation for Public Broadcasting grant $25,000 which would add the present funding in grants-in-kind of $85,000, which it has now. Holbro said that Bonneville Corporation, parent company of KS and both KSFI and KUTV has contributed substantially with equipment donations.

Outlining the station programming direction, Holbrook said, "We hope to see people in a different way than they are being served." For instance, said Holbrook, the station would treat many news stories in half-hour or one-segment instead of the customary 60 seconds.

Holbrook said the station would also spotlight what he called "neighborhood programming, the issues of particular community or ethnic group."

"We would like to see a group with a certain viewpoint be able to explain their viewpoint," said Holbrook indicating that the new station would initially have few sources and would have to depend a great deal on community action and support for programming. "If they do come through, it will fill what we can do," he said.

"Counterpoint"

month away, station picks program director

Public radio for Utah is one month away, station picks program director

Utah's first public radio station, KRCL, is just over a month away from initial broadcasts after waiting out some major delays, according to Stephen Holbrook, who has been spearheading the project and will act as general manager and fund raiser for the station.

Holbrook, who is also a part owner of Lakewood's Home Furnishings and serves as a Democratic legislator from Salt Lake City, said the major delay was caused by an overload at the FCC, who declared a freeze on applications two days after KRCL had submitted theirs. Holbrook said the station's application was part of the overload.

"We had the antenna installed on Farnsworth Peak before the snow fell," said Holbrook. "In fact, in order to do that we had to spend more for it than we intended." But delays meant the antenna was unused through the winter.

"The last obstacle is a piece of equipment called diplexer which was scheduled to be here last December, was just recently shipped so we are looking at another 30 to 40 days. We hope to be broadcasting between June 15 and July 1," said Holbrook.

The biggest headache that accompanied the delays involved the station's dependence on grants for funding. According to Holbrook, 10 applications for grants either had to be resubmitted frequently and the explanations made, or extensions had to be asked for and "of course, I wanted to know all the reasons," Holbrook added.

The board of trustees of the station, headed by Park Nelson, a prominent local attorney and previous Enterpriser "Counterpoint" column along with Holbrook, has also chosen the station's program director. Marty Nimn is a graduate of the University of Utah in journalism and communications who worked in radio broadcasting in such far removed places Abidjan, Ivory Coast, a locally with KLUB radio automation operator, will handle that responsibility.

Nimn served in Ivory Coast in connection with United Nations Ministry of Agriculture broadcast and also worked in Job Corps. Holbrook said the station has already been invited to compete for a Corporation for Public Broadcasting grant $25,000 which would add the present funding in grants-in-kind of $85,000, which it has now. Holbro said that Bonneville Corporation, parent company of KS and both KSFI and KUTV has contributed substantially with equipment donations.

Outlining the station programming direction, Holbrook said, "We hope to see people in a different way than they are being served." For instance, said Holbrook, the station would treat many news stories in half-hour or one-segment instead of the customary 60 seconds.

Holbrook said the station would also spotlight what he called "neighborhood programming, the issues of particular community or ethnic group."

"We would like to see a group with a certain viewpoint be able to explain their viewpoint," said Holbrook indicating that the new station would initially have few sources and would have to depend a great deal on community action and support for programming. "If they do come through, it will fill what we can do," he said.