

Classic Book Radio WMFH-LP

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Radio FM 95.5

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

May 27, 2015

Informal Request for Routine Extension of LPFM Construction Permit

Dear Madame Secretary,

Classic Book Radio hereby requests an extension of our LPFM CP (copy enclosed). We are proceeding in good faith and effort toward completion of our station, but there remain a few items of equipment to procure and the testing of the integrated system. We are confident that we can complete station construction in a few more months, with a higher quality of outcome than to attempt to rush to meet our current deadline.

We have accomplished a lot in the period since our CP was granted.

As an organization we have expanded our board of directors and acquired IRS 501.c.3 status. We have presented our project to multiple community organizations and held fundraising events of various types. We have applied for numerous grants from corporate and private foundations. We have participated in the business community through our local Chamber of Commerce. We have had exposure in local print media. We have built a website ([wmfh-lp.org](http://wmfh-lp.org))

Our technical personnel have attended SBE radio engineering classes with the Alabama Association of Broadcasters, taken and passed SBE certification examinations.

We have procured a transmitter, audio chain, playback/automation system, tower, and feed line. We have space to operate. We are working on obtaining and mounting an antenna. Our single biggest expense obstacle outstanding is an EAS/CAP system. We have more work to do with station integration and have not yet started RF testing.

Our organization's goal is to improve literacy through broadcast of classic books. We have procured content and have been in touch with experts in the field of literacy education. We understand that our

programming is an unusual move into new territory for a radio station. Because of this we think it even more worthwhile to see the project through to completion as a test of our thesis. We want to have a good integration of our website with the station programming, to enable our listeners to read along with the readings being broadcast. And we would like to use RDS to display title and author. Much of that work remains to be completed.

An examination of our application will show that we were not in competition with any other organizations for this CP; there is no issue of unfairness in granting our extension request.

Let me assure you that we feel the weight of responsibility that having this Construction Permit brings upon us. We see our station as a potential community benefit, but we also see the CP as a valuable resource to our community as a whole and not just to our project. It would make us very sad to have missed this rare opportunity to add a local voice to the FM airwaves. And we want to be a "good neighbor" among the commercial and non-commercial stations that serve our area.

If our request for extension were to be denied, we fully intend to complete construction. But we feel the outcome would be of higher quality and with better chance of long term success if we can relieve the immediate time pressure and proceed in a more circumspect and deliberate manner. We hope our extension request will be approved.

If you have any questions about our activities during the period of our CP, our current construction condition or our project plans, we would be pleased to provide whatever information you desire.

Finally, our principle engineering resource has been called out of town for two weeks in May, for another two weeks in June and for one week in July to meet unforeseen employment obligations.

Please approve our extension request.

Sincerely

Chris Howard  
Executive Director  
Classic Book Radio  
WMFH-LP (under construction)