
MINUTES
Common Ground Food Co-op
Board of Directors Meeting
5:30 – 7:30 pm Central Time
May 18, 2026

Roll Call

Call to Order Welcome Guests, Owners

Wang called the meeting to order at 5:32pm. Wang, Parson, Hari, Stengrim, and Cronin were the voting members in attendance.

Muller and Coleman were absent with informed absences.

Gary Taylor was in attendance as an ex officio guest of the Board.

Robert Taylor (owner number 11725) joined as a guest.

Liz Sands joined as the notetaker.

Public Comment

There was none.

Agenda Amendments – Document 1

There were none.

Appointment

Appointing New Board Director

Motion. Hari moved and Parson seconded a motion to appoint Robert Taylor as the new Board director until the next election cycle. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Consent Agenda

April Meeting Minutes – Document 2a, 2b

Motion. Cronin moved and Hari seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed with one abstention.

Wang asked Hari if she needed any assistance with the treasurer's report. Hari indicated that she did not receive any information for this month.

Action. Hari to reach out to the finance manager to request information pertaining to the treasurer's report.

Ratifying Executive Session Motions

Ratifying Executive Session Motions – Document 3

Motion. Stengrim moved and Cronin seconded a motion to ratify the two motions from May's Executive Session. Motion passed with one abstention.

Internal Monitoring and Board Admin

Internal Monitoring C8 – Document 4

Wang requested feedback. There was none.

FinMOO Debrief

Wang shared feedback from Emily in the marketing department where she questioned whether the FinMoo is worth holding in its current form. Cronin expected more questions and Gary Taylor expected more attendees. The Board discussed adjusting the format of the FinMOO, with Wang noting that the FinMOO is required per the CGFC bylaws. Taylor suggested adding Board questions regarding the FinMOO to the upcoming owner survey.

Action. Engagement Committee to discuss feedback about the FinMOO and how to implement any changes discussed today.

Action. Engagement Committee to connect with the Marketing department and Taylor to discuss adding board questions to the owner survey.

MOO and Election Planning

Wang noted that the election packet goes live on July 1st and the window for candidate applications closes in early August. The election and MOO will occur in September.

Action. Hari to ask the Engagement Committee to interface with the Board Development Committee to begin thinking about the MOO and election, and loop Parson into any scheduled meetings.

GM Monitoring Reports

Financial Conditions and Activities, EL B1, Q4 2025 – Document 6a, 6b

Wang noted that the process for El B1 has been suspended.

Motion. Parson moved and Hari seconded a motion to note that all directors have received, read, and acknowledged El B1, Q4 2025. Motion passed with one abstention.

Financial Conditions and Activities, El B1, Q1 2026 – Document 5a, 5b

No discussion.

Ends Report – Document 6

The Board and Taylor discussed a few errors to be corrected or updated.

Action. Taylor to correct or update items identified by the Board in the Ends Report within one week and the Board will review.

Monthly Operations Report and Financials

Overview – Document 7a, 7b, 7c

Parson requested clarification about a missing credit. Parson discussed vacancies in the Bakery and Grocery departments. The Board discussed beer & wine sales and out of stock numbers.

Action. Directors to send any follow up questions about the MORE Report.

Tracking Reports

Tracking Reports – Document 8a, 8b, 8c

Wang noted that out of stock numbers are looking much better and requested more information about the tracking report and the Return to Compliance plan.

Action. Taylor to send sales & labor spreadsheet with the tracking report for the Board to review for next month.

Action. Taylor to add updated information to the Return to Compliance plan.

Transition Directives

HR Documents and Policies

Wang requested that Taylor write a policy regarding offsite HR documents and policies. Taylor noted that the new policy manual should be completed by the January Board meeting. Wang requested that Taylor begin drafting the new policy now and have it ready to share at the July board meeting.

Action. Taylor to bring the HR document policy to the July board meeting.

Motion. Cronin moved and Hari seconded a motion to add the previously discussed item from the Executive Session to the list of transition directives. Motion passed with one abstention.

NCG Peer Audit – Document 3a, 3b

No discussion.

GM Search

GM Search

The Board discussed that there is one viable candidate and discussed who will pay for the job posting. Cronin explained they are working on drafting questions for different interview stages and have created a spreadsheet to determine eligibility requirements.

Action. Per Todd's recommendation, the GM Search Committee to consider during the in-person process how to get staff feedback, if any. The Search Committee may or may not want Taylor's input on interview questions as he has offered.

Motion. Parson moved and Cronin seconded a motion to enter Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board entered executive session at 6:49 pm.

The Board resumed open session at 7:05 pm.

Committees and Task Force Updates

Engagement Committee

Muller was not present but wanted Wang to pass on that the newsletter article this month will feature Board member's favorite items at the Co-op. He requested a minimum of three Board members to send their items as well as a paragraph about why they like it.

Action. Wang to ask Muller to send an email to the rest of the Board asking for this information.

Board Development Committee

There were no members present from the Board Development Committee, but Hari will talk with them about upcoming elections. Wang asked Robert Taylor to join the Board Development Committee, noting that if he decides to run for election in the fall then he will have to preclude himself from certain activities. Taylor agreed.

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee made minor edits that were requested to the internal monitoring report and began drafting the reporting procedures.

Closing

Additional Discussion

Parson noted that they need to complete all onboarding steps for Robert Taylor.

Action. Wang to email Operations Manager Joanne Mierek about stipends.

Action. Board Development Committee to reach out to Robert Taylor about standard onboarding including conflict of interest and tax forms.

Wang noted that he and Parson are meeting with Todd this week regarding implementing policies that safeguard the new GM and Board's relationship as it pertains to performance. Wang requested Board members send additional thoughts via email.

Newsletter Assignment

Discussed above.

Review of Action Items from this Meeting

Cronin reviewed action items from this meeting.

Board Bits and Owner Updates

The Board continued talking about the GM search and updating the store policies. They are also working on getting owners more engaged in the FinMOO.

Scheduling June Meeting

The Juen Board meeting will occur on Monday, June 22nd with Executive Session on Thursday, June 11th if necessary.

Adjourn

Motion. Cronin moved and Stengrim seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 pm. Motion passed unanimously.