MINUTES
Common Ground Food Co-op
Board of Directors Meeting
5:30 – 7:30 pm Central Time
October 19, 2026

Roll Call

Call to Order Welcome Guests, Owners

Wang called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. Wang, Sutton, Stengrim, Coleman, Cronin, Cole, and Stumpf were the Board members in attendance. Etienne and Hari were absent.

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

Liz Sands joined as the notetaker.

Owner Mercy Guth (#16689) joined as a guest. To note, Guth left the Board Meeting at 6:25 pm.

Public Comment
There was none.

Agenda Amendments – Document 1
There were none.

Approve Consent Agenda

October Meeting Minutes – Document 2a
Stengrim mentioned presence of previous board member's name in minutes. Corrected before approval.

Motion. Stengrim moved and Stumpf seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Internal Monitoring and Admin

Officer Elections

Motion. Coles moved and Cronin seconded a motion to elect Stumpf as board President. Motion passed unanimously.

Internal Monitoring
No Feedback on C2, C3, C4

C6#8 Officer Roles - Document 2b

Motion. Cronin moved and Stumpf seconded a motion to approve amendments on C6#8 as proposed.

GM Monitoring Executive Limitation Reports

EL B1 – Financial Conditions and Activities– Document 3a
Taylor highlighted concern for returning to profitability, explaining radish rewards removed and removing redemption minimum. Taylor indicated a newsletter article to explain radish rewards changes.

Motion. Cronin moved and Stengrim seconded a motion to temporarily suspend the Board monitoring report process for EL B1 and El B6 for the next 6 months to provide more meeting time for the Board to focus on the GM search and transition. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion. Cole moved and Sutton seconded the motion that directors received, read, and acknowledge EL B1.

EL B2 – Budget– Document 3b
Taylor noted EL B2 budget has numbers at the top that are multipliers. Explained that sales numbers are as expected based on multipliers, expenses are a certain percentage of previous year's expenses, COGS was also examined. Expecting marketing to do more classes. Taylor discussed Food for All accounting. Promotions/Branding 85100 is where radish rewards are recorded.
Action. Experimental Station Link Match and Total Personnel to be reassessed by Taylor.

Monthly Operations Report and Financials Overview – Document 4a, 4b

Gary Taylor discussed the water main issue. Cronin asked about insurance claims regarding this issue.

Tracking Reports

Tracking Reports – Document 6a, 6b

Taylor indicated a new margin report sent recently. Stumpf indicated that version is updated on the drive. Taylor indicated margin in bulk and beer & wine should be corrected soon and were due to counting errors. Kitchen margins are higher than other coops. Taylor noted target Labor percentage without benefits as noted in tracking report is 19%. Taylor indicated new Out of Stock Count process. Joanne will be taking item level analysis to the order writers.

Transition Directives

Transition Directives – Document 6

Action. Joanne to record hours process in written form, Gary to report on this in December meeting.

The Labor Task Force was re-established with Cronin and Wang with limited scope

The Executive Session item marked as completed.

It is noted that Gary Taylor left the meeting at 6:44 pm.

Committees

Engagement Committee

Stengrim stated at retreat board decided to pause engagement committee so no vote necessary on Engagement Committee Charter. Newsletter to be done by Sutton with new board member questions. Holiday cards for staff at next board meeting. Sutton indicated idea store may be good resource for holiday cards.

GM Search Committee

Cole indicated committee met and caught up on current status of GM Search. GM search was a big topic on retreat. Board should revisit survey from retreat. Search Committee will be meeting on Nov 24th. Sutton indicated excitement from retreat discussion and going forward with committee discussion. GM search committee meeting last Tuesday of every month. No amendments to charter

Board Development Committee

Cronin indicated board development committee met. No amendments to the charter. Discussion at retreat was we are not looking to just fill chairs. Cronin indicates appointee candidate and will send questions from election. Stengrim and Stumpf indicated possible appointees. Directors instructed to send appointee candidate contact information to Cronin. Committee meets second Monday of the month.

Motion. Stengrim moved and Sutton seconded the motion to approved GM Search and Board Development Charters.

Closing

Additional Discussion

Action. Stengrim to email Bonnie to CC Andrew, asking Bonnie to take the lead on finding audit firm options with proposals by end of January and present board with recommendation.

Action. Sutton to start a folder in the drive for storing invoices

Newsletter Assignment

Sutton will answer new board member questions to answer.

Review of Action Items from This Meeting

Cronin reviewed the action items from this meeting.

Board Bits and Owner Updates

The Board welcomed their new Board members and got them settled.

Scheduling December Meeting

The December Board meeting is scheduled for December 21st.

Adjourn

Motion. Cole moved and Coleman seconded a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 7:27 pm. Motion passed unanimously.