

Common Ground Food Co-op
Board Meeting Minutes
July 8th, 2019
6:15 pm to 8:15 pm
Hallway behind Common Ground Food Co-op – Lincoln Square – Urbana, Illinois

Present: Karen Carney, Magdalena Casper-Shipp, Charles Delman, Colin Dodson,
Margaret Johnstone, Evelyne Tardy, Julie Zilles

Absent: Marissa Stewart

Others Present: Gary Taylor, GM
Jeffrey Chandler, Minute Taker

Proceedings	
Meeting called to order	At 6:16 pm by Karen Carney
1. Preliminaries	<p>A. Guests/Owners Gary Taylor, GM Jeffrey Chandler, Minute Taker</p> <p>B. Public Comment It was noted the contact at the church was not present as agreed upon, therefore the meeting had to move to the hallway behind the Co-op in Lincoln Square. Karen Carney will make contact with the church to clarify the issue and if a new meeting space is required.</p> <p>C. Agenda Amendments Item 3d was moved to board admin for signature confirmation.</p>
2. Board Study	<p>A. Owner Outreach Evelyne Tardy distributed information regarding the committee's discussion for the MOO. The tentative date is Thursday, September 26th, 6-8pm. The location is not yet set, but it's possible the hallway behind the co-op could be utilized, and expanded from last year to reduce crowding. Additional ideas presented included wrist bands to denote owners, tours of storage space in the basement, short presentations regarding financials and visioning, kids' activities, food options, election process logistics, information available at booths, the emcee, and marketing.</p>

	<p>Evelyne then opened discussion regarding what the board would like the MOO to be, what has been successful or not successful historically. General discussion included ideas about being informative, stressing the focused vision through multiple outlets, presentation on Ends achievements, having dynamic speakers, building community and dialogue, and encouraging interaction by soliciting input. There was additional discussion regarding whether candidates should speak at the MOO, or have a booth, record videos, or wear something that makes them easily identifiable as candidates. Members noted issues in the past with owners having already voted by the MOO, and that a “Meet the Candidates” event is also scheduled for September 7th. Acoustic issues in the past were noted so the committee could plan a layout to better enable presentations. There was additional discussion regarding the timeline for new board member orientation.</p>
<p>3. Consent Agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Public Minutes from June Meeting B. Private Minutes from June Meeting C. GM Operational Update (MORe) <p>Action Taken Item C was unanimously approved.</p> <p>Charles removed minutes in order to offer further clarification that his concern with focusing on one issue was specifically regarding a lack of focus on worker empowerment. “Personal” was edited to “Personnel”.</p> <p>Action Taken Items B & C were approved as amended.</p>
<p>4. Committee Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Board Development Committee Magdalena Casper-Shipp reported that she sent the approved Election Packet to Gary to be published online. The committee will be accepting candidate applications through August 16th. B. Owner Outreach Committee

See Board Study

C. Policy Committee

Charles Delman offered a suggestion to approve amendments individually. He noted the two main issues were that the GM, as an employee, cannot serve on the board, and to create a balance between owners and staff serving on the board. Charles noted the amendment was proposed per legal advice. Julie Zilles agreed that the amendment regarding the GM serving on the board should be a bylaw, as the board is often reluctant to declare parties ineligible on an individual basis. Magdalena brought up a debate regarding the family members who would be considered too close to the GM. Julie added to the discussion by reviewing the history behind why it was added originally. General consensus was to leave the bylaw as is.

Colin raised discussion regarding the rotation of terms and how staff members would be able to run for available seats. Karen took a pulse of those present, with a general consensus to keep things simple by limiting staff board members at any given time to two, regardless of election cycle or term length.

Charles opened additional discussion regarding conflict of interest, noting the policy already clarifies fiduciary and financial conflicts, but conflicts based on personal connection and relationship issues are not included. There was general consensus that personal relationships could be an area of conflict. There were specific staff/board member conflicts that the Policy Committee could further review for policy updates, as opposed to By-law amendments.

It was noted that the Policy committee will provide the reasoning for the amendments and provide to the Board Development and Owner Outreach

	<p>committees for election and marketing purposes.</p> <p>D. Visioning Working Group Karen and Julie are working on charges from previous meeting.</p>
5. Board Admin	<p>A. Treasurer Appointment There is one accepted nomination for Magdalena Casper-Shipp to serve through the current term ending October 2019. No additional nominees from the floor.</p> <p>Action Taken The board passed a motion to appoint Magdalena Casper Shipp to the office of Treasurer. (6 yea, 1 nay)</p> <p>B. Election Packet</p> <p>C. Lease</p> <p>D. Resignation – Kathleen Moreno</p> <p>Action Taken The board confirmed the electronic votes for items B, C, and D by signature.</p> <p>E. By-law Changes</p> <p>Action Taken The board unanimously approved the by-law amendments as amended during discussion.</p>
6. Closing	<p>A. Next meeting August 12, 2019</p> <p>B. Outreach calendar assignments Tabling August: Evelyne Newsletter: Margaret</p> <p>C. Other assignments</p> <p>D. Check-out</p>
Meeting Adjourned	At 8:03 pm by Karen Carney