

Blue Hill Co-op Board Meeting

June 26, 2012 Blue Hill Public Library, Howard Room

Board Members Attending: Mia Strong, Richard Paget, Keith Herklotz, Laura Livingston, Allison Watters, Jerome Lawther, Jim Picariello, Chris Ramsay

Absent Board Member(s): No absent Directors

Others Attending: Mark Deeny (General Manager), Julia Klein (minute taker),

Julia Klein, minute taker

Keith Herklotz, task and decision keeper

Mia Strong, meeting facilitator, time keeper

Approval of May Minutes: **The May 15, 2012 Minutes were approved pending the following changes:** Mia requested a change in the May Minutes under Consent Agenda to read: A proposal was made and approved that financial reporting be will submitted quarterly rather than monthly. Also, under Policy Review Committee: The Board adopted the Policy Review Committee's recommendation.

Consent Agenda: **The Board accepted the GM report.**

Time Open to Owners: No Owners are present.

Committee Reports:

Board Development: Allison updated the Board on the Committee's work. Two candidates plan to run for board seats, Marge May and Aaron Dority. Eileen Milenhausen and Deborah Evans have expressed interest. The search for a financial person continues. Regarding term lengths, the Committee recommended staggering terms amongst Directors after the election. Mia and Alison will work on New Director Orientation.

Membership Committee: Jim presented ideas developed by the Membership Committee to the Board. The Committee discussed ways to build excitement among Owners about being Co-op Owners. Suggestions include enhancing the shopping experience by clearly identifying staff, reducing markup on local products for Owners only and a PR push to show that the Co-op is under new management with a new Board and a new atmosphere of making people happy. The Board discussed ways to put these ideas into practice and affirmed their support of the GM toward these ends.

Outreach Committee: Mia briefed the Board on the informal first meeting of the Outreach Committee and read the proposed Charter. **The Board approved the Outreach Committee and Charter.** The committee will organize a showing of the movie *Fixing the Future* on July 18th and is considering a GMO project for the fall.

Relocations Committee: Mia briefed the Board on her conversation with Bill Gessner. The Board discussed hiring Gessner to analyze the financial feasibility of relocation. The budget for analysis would be \$4,000 - \$5000. Mia will discuss details of fundraising and financial feasibility with Gessner and request a mockup of the analysis which she will

email to the Board. Mark exchanged ideas with the Board regarding hiring a Relocation Project Manager. Richard explained the possibility of being covered by the 501c3 fiscal sponsor FAITH, enabling the Co-op to receive tax-deductible donations. **After a fruitful discussion a proposal for several actions was made and approved: Keith will contact the DOT regarding a Road Entrance Permit for the property recommended by the Relocation Committee. Also, the Finance Committee will write a proposal to the property owner for a purchase option to be approved by the Board in July. Lastly, Mia will talk to Sally Mills about examining the nuances of and the agreement with the potential fiscal sponsor.** Keith will update the Relocation Committee.

Board Budget: **The Directors approved the Board Budget.**

Mission Statement, Strategic Planning, Board Training: Mia reminded the Board to think about booking a Board Training session with a consultant after the elections. The Directors worked to refine the Co-op Mission Statement. Mia will email the draft to the Directors for further brainstorming. The Discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

Agenda for Next Meeting:

Mission Statement
Board Development Committee
Finance Committee Update
Ownership Committee
Preliminary Budget
Business Plan Draft - Incorporating Ideas
Compile Annual Report Information
Vetting of Candidates –Executive Session

Newsletter Date: **A proposal was made and approved to include a section about the Committees in every Newsletter.** Board Committees will write a brief summary of their activities for the upcoming Newsletter. Summaries will be emailed to Mia by the Newsletter due date, July 10, 2012.

Meeting Evaluation: Allison commented, “This was an excellent meeting! Everyone had several very important items to add to the conversation and we got somewhere successfully.” Other comments were, “We’ve been working hard!” and “Kudos to Mia!”

Executive Session: The Board discussed the GM’s Contract.

Due Date for the Board Packet: Items for the Board Packet will be due on Saturday July 7, 2012.

Next Meeting: July 17, 2012 6:30 - 9:00 PM Blue Hill Public Library, Howard Room

Minutes respectfully submitted by Julia Klein

