

TPSS General Member Meeting

June 14, 2009, 4-7pm
TPSS Takoma Junction

Attendance: [I gave Sherri the sign-in sheet before starting this – I need to get it back]

After introductions, board president Lorig Charkoudian (LC) updated the membership on the Board's activities since the October 2008 Member meeting, including the Strategic Plan (which was passed earlier this year) and the current GM search. Members commented that retail experience is important in a GM candidate and asked the board to consider current employees as candidates. LC explained that the position is posted in the stores and that staff were invited to apply at several staff meetings.

The membership also discussed Board-Member communication. Ideas included an newsletter with board and GM updates and archiving minutes on the TPSS website. Both of these ideas are in progress.

The board's committees – Finance Committee, Living Wage Committee, Local Foods Committee, and Membership Committee – presented their activities to the membership at stations where members could interact with committee members one-on-one. Members were encouraged to run for the board in this November's elections.

Chris Mendes from the Lafayette Federal Credit Union was present to invite members to join the Credit Union and discuss its benefits. These include stability and a member-owned, not-for-profit culture in which the membership can vote on decisions such as store hours. The Credit Union offers discounts on life and auto insurance, as well as home mortgages and refinances.

Because this meeting was moved to June 14, before the June board meeting, the budget for FY 2010 has not yet been passed. The information about the budget will be in the board minutes from June 21.

The membership ate delicious food from Middle Eastern Market and danced to the music of DJ Catwoman.