

**Takoma Park-Silver Spring Coop
Board Candidate Nomination Form - 2007**

Current Member #: 4176

Name: Jim Baird

Address: 8004 Maple Ave
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Home Phone #: 301-587-33249

Work Phone #: 202-378-1235

Email Address (if any): wycbaird@erols.com

Enclosed in this packet is a copy of the TPSS Coop Nomination Cover Letter, Nominating Committee Policies and Procedures, Board of Representatives Code of Ethics, and Board of Representatives Job Description. The TPSS Bylaws are available to view on line at <http://tpss.coop>. The Nominating Committee Policies and Procedures describe the process and requirements to run for the TPSS Coop Board of Representatives. In order for your nomination to be accepted you must affirm the following:

I have read or will read the following documents:

Signature

Nomination Cover Letter

Nominating Committee Policies and Procedures

TPSS Bylaws (available only on line)

Board of Representatives Code of Ethics

Board of Representatives Job Description

The TPSS Coop operates under a system called Policy Governance. The Board does not have authority over the Coop's day to day operations but rather sets policies which guide the way the General Manager conducts the business. Please affirm that you have read the following description of policy governance.

I have read or will read:

Signature

Policy Governance Flowchart

You also must affirm the following:

I have read the 2nd paragraph of the TPSS Board of Representatives Job Description and Article 6, section J of the TPSS Bylaws and I affirm that I understand and agree with the time commitments and attendance requirements of a seat on the board of representatives.

Signature: _____

Being a member in good standing of the TPSS Coop and having read the above and agreed to all parts I would like to nominate myself as a candidate for the TPSS Coop Board of Representatives. I have attached my nominating statement to this form.

Signature: _____

This completed form and your nominating statement must be submitted according to the instructions in the Nominating Committee Policies and Procedures to be valid.

Nominating Statement
Jim Baird

Dear Nominating Committee

When I learned about the Co-op's strategic planning process in the spring of '08, I decided that, after many years of being a "shopping member" I wanted to step up my level of commitment. It was good time in my life to do so. I had stepped down from a six-year tenure on the Friends of Sligo Creek Board. I wanted to re-ignite my volunteer relationship with the Co-op which dates back to 1993 when I worked a shift with my daughter. And I had recently read a pamphlet about 10 things to do at the "End of Oil" that included the suggestion to build up community cooperative structures since the larger structures of governance will likely be in shambles. I thought this was good advice so I decided to get started at my home Co-op..

Since then, I have worked with the Strategic Planning, Local Foods and GM search committees, all of which are focused on the strategic future of the Co-op. Throughout my experience, I have been very impressed with the dedication of my co-committee members, the quality of the ideas and visions of the members, and the resolve with which the Board is taking on the challenge. I became intrigued with the thought of joining the board, in part to participate in taking the strategic plan ideas through to implementation. But also to be one of those people who, as Bruce Williams said of the Board and members who conceived of the expansion from the Sligo Avenue store, step up when it is time to chart the Co-op's future; people who help it strive to be the progressive force that it can and should be in the community.

I believe that I have good background and experience for board service. I am a resident of Takoma park since 1986 (all on the Maple-Eire block). I coached in TP youth soccer and baseball for my son and daughter. I served as TA President at Rolling terrace from 1996 to 98. In 2001 I joined the founding Board of the Friends of Sligo Creek, serving as Co-President in 2005 and 6. My strengths in these volunteer efforts lie in strategic thinking, working to keep myself and the group focused on the task at hand, building operating and decision-making systems and a strong commitment to membership and community building.

My work life also provides useful experience for the position. I spent 12 years working in international community development, mostly in Africa. Since 1996, I have been working on sustainability issues for the national conservation organization, the Izaak Walton League, and since 2007 for the American Farmland Trust. Thus, both my professional and personal commitments mirror the core values and objectives of the Co-op – community building, healthy local food, and sustainable living.

I appreciate you time and attention to reviewing my application, and look forward to the election process.

Peace

Jim Baird
September 20, 2009