

Please complete the following candidate profile and question form.

Julia Eddy

Candidate Profile

1) Education (degrees held, schools attended, any relevant coursework)

BA in Psychology, Bryn Mawr College

2) Present Occupation:

- IT & Data Manager at Bread for the City, a local non-profit social services agency
- Assistant to the Owner of Annie's Ace Hardware (Brookland & Petworth DC)

3) Community Involvement (include volunteer service, outreach, etc.):

- TPSS Coop Board: Board Admin Dec 2017 – June 2018; Board Member/Secretary/Finance Committee July 2018 – Now
- Graduated 2016 Cooperative Leadership Institute (through Philadelphia Area Cooperative Alliance)
- 7 years self-study on cooperatives - attending conferences/workshops (Eastern Conference on Workplace Democracy, Coop DC, One DC's Black Workers Center)
- Served on the Organizing committee for 2012 DC Coop Day
- Served on steering committee for several cooperative projects (Greenbelt Compost Coop, DC Food Coop/Commercial Kitchen, a property management company looking at converting to a worker coop model, a group of people talking about founding an intentional community)
- Volunteered at Glut Food Collective, MD Food Collective, and Good Food Markets

Please check the following areas in which you have experience:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Group process and/or group decision-making
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Meeting facilitation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public speaking
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Writing newsletter articles
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strategic planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accounting and/or finance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Online file sharing and calendars (Google) or website editing or management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Volunteer programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	Past and/or present participation on a board of directors
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Retail and/or Other Business experience
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal training and/or experience
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____

Candidate Questions:

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Board?

Over the last year I have been involved with the Board – the first 6 months as the Board Administrator and then ~6 months as a Board member, Secretary of the Board, and member of the Finance Committee. I have seen first hand what is involved, how grueling late-night meetings and consensus decision-making can be. I appreciate the work and everything I have learned thus far. Over the last year as Board Admin and Secretary I have taken minutes at most of our meetings, kept our archives up to date, and maintained our calendars and action items. I've learned a lot about the Coop and the Board, about policy governance and financials. I am ready to continue keeping us organized, getting things done, and even geeking out about governance occasionally.

Furthermore, I love the Co-op. TPSS was one of the reasons I knew I could live in the DC area 11 years ago. I find comfort in food coops - the healthful familiar products, the way they smell, and the community connections you find there. I also love cooperative businesses more broadly, I'm drawn to the values (self-determination, democracy, care for the community, etc...) and appreciate that the people most impacted (the workers, consumers, or other businesses) have a role in directing the organization.

2. What experience or involvement have you had with the TPSS Food Co-op or other cooperative enterprises or Boards of Directors?

Over the last year, serving as Board Admin, then Board Secretary and member of the Finance Committee, I've put in countless hours for TPSS – tracking deliveries in video footage, attending meetings, conference calls, rallies, city council hearings, and all the emails in between. Aside from that, TPSS has been my regular grocery store for 11 years, I've attended member meetings, and tried to stay abreast of the big stuff going on. Outside of TPSS, I'm really into coops. I've been a part of grassroots projects (including one attempt to start a food coop and one to convert a small business into a worker-owned cooperative); I've attended national and local coop conferences; and I graduated from a 6-month Cooperative Leadership Institute.

3. What skills, qualities, formal training, education, or professional or volunteer experience would you bring that directly contribute to the mission of the TPSS Food Co-op?

In my paid work, I am the Manager of IT & Data at a local social services organization, Bread for the City. I work part-time with the owner of a local Ace hardware store (also a coop!). In work and life, I pride myself in being a strong generalist (I know some things about a lot of things and am always curious to learn more). I am intensely organized and am very proficient with technology, including the current Board systems. I feel comfortable working with data and financial statements, and have experience with strategic planning processes. More so, I'm good at working in groups, listening first, asking for clarity to break down complexity into more manageable bites, thoughtfully planning, facilitating participatory meetings, and doing the work that needs to be done (even when it's not sexy or fun).

4. What is your favorite Co-operative Principle and why?

Choosing a favorite principle feels like choosing the best season; the package of all 7 is what makes coops great. The principle that speaks to me most right now is Concern for the Community. I love that TPSS serves a vital community need (selling healthy products), while also making a broader impact based on community values. For example, the coop might prioritize organic, local, or companies that use minimal packaging based on member input.

5. Is there anything else you'd like to share or address?

Thanks to everyone who is reading this and engaging, even if you don't vote for me :)