

Please complete the following candidate profile and question form.

Gregory Ross

Candidate Profile

- 1) Education (degrees held, schools attended, any relevant coursework)
Certified food handler in District of Columbia

- 2) Present Occupation: Barista

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

Please check the following areas in which you have experience:

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

Candidate Questions:

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

I sat through several sessions of city council meetings this summer when Takoma Junction was on the docket and was continually disappointed by the council's lack of desire to field more glamorous, community-originated plans. I feel that the Co-op plays a significant role in the community and its influence is overwhelmingly beneficial. I am passionate about advocating

for community health and thoughtful eccentric growth. The Co-op is an anchor of the community and its continued success benefits all. If the Co-op grows with the neighborhood I would very much want to encourage the highest hopes that our area remains a leader in innovative, progressive, and community-oriented growth.

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

I've been a near-daily shopper for two years and have gained a great deal of respect for how well run the grocery appears from the customers' perspective. The store is very well kept, the staff is attentive to store needs and customer needs alike, and the products shelved are of good quality.

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?

Fleshing out pertinent information and factoring it in in decision making is my strong suit, with a preference to quickly get to the core of an issue without losing focus or getting sidebarred excessive or repetitive point making. Sometimes that means staying quiet while someone else makes the good point and other times it's redirecting conversations to more fruitful discussion.

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

More flexible, direct, and fluid exchange of goods is always going to benefit the producer, consumer, and community. Economic participation sets a fine example of how like-minded community members can coalesce to provide for their community in ways individuals couldn't.

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