

TPSS Board of Representatives Meeting

Date: April 27, 2014

Time and Place: 6:45pm, TPSS Community Room

Present: Tanya Whorton (TW), Rachel Hardwick (RH), Emily Townsend (ET), Matt Hersh (MH), Kahlil Yanes (KY), Bill Rodgers (BR), Robert Anderson (RA), David Zuckerman (DZ)

Others present: Abdi Guled (AG), Marilyn Berger (MB), Navneet Rangra (NR)

Minutes submitted by: Solveig Mortensen (SM)

RESOLUTIONS:

- The Open Session March 23, 2014 minutes were approved as amended; ET moved and approved by consensus.
- The Board resolved to revise G11-2 of policy G11 to state that photography is permitted.
APPENDIX A
- The Board tabled approval of policy G10 until the May Board meeting and planned to address policy G2 at the Board retreat.

GM Report: AG reported that he has created a task force of four employees empowered to focus on and innovate around expanding local products in the Co-op. AG estimated that the Co-op's bakery department is nearly entirely locally-sourced and a good number of the Co-op's current dairy and meat departments are also locally-sourced. One representative encouraged the Co-op to increase its locally-sourced produce.

AG described the challenge of balancing the cost of local products with the Co-op's ability to reach and educate members and customers on the benefits of purchasing local products. DZ encouraged management to mitigate the risk from introducing many new local products by thinking about a clear process for doing so that includes closely evaluating product sales. TW encouraged management to continue to maximally utilize the store space. MB noted how the Co-op has decreased the number of "facings" of the same product to create room for more products.

The Board reviewed the analysis of the price points and sales examples provided in the GM report and discussed whether they wanted to learn the percentage of sales for the lowest priced products and/or simply wanted to be certain that the Co-op provided lower priced products.

The Board requested that the Finance Manager continue to work towards providing year to year (quarter to quarter) comparisons for the key metrics of sales, net profit, personnel costs, and cost of goods for the financial statements to the Board. The Board also discussed how the membership price per basket is reported and asked for consistency in reporting it as either the real money amount in the register or the amount per basket prior to the 10% Super Thursday discount.

Board Event Dates/CCMA Conference, June 12-14, Madison, WI: Various Board representatives expressed their interest in attending the conference. The Board confirmed the

special Board meeting with Co-op consultant, Bill Gessner, will take place on May 8 at 6:30 pm-9:00pm, and the annual Board retreat will take place on June 22 at 9:30am to 5:30pm.

Membership Committee Updates: KY reported on approaches that the Membership Committee (MC) planned to continue or try for the upcoming Member-owners meeting on June 1 at 1pm, such as,

- having Board reps. sit together, up front
- setting the agenda for the Board to speak first and then management
- for environmental friendliness, asking attendees to bring their own plates and cutlery, while having it available as needed.

KY reported that the invited speaker, Matt Mulder, from Arcadia Food will present on food hubs. Board reps. suggested that the Member-owners meeting should have a display board about the expansion and providing information on the Co-op's proposal to the City Council.

KY, ET, and RH shared feedback regarding this day's Earth Day event; many attendees remarked about it positively. Regarding Super Thursday, one member wondered if the Co-op could let members pick any day out of a month to receive their 10% discount and could consider allowing members to prepay the Co-op, so their payments could be reduced from their account, possibly also with a discount.

ET also relayed feedback from members that the Co-op should carry beer and wine, preferably organic; that the produce is expensive; and that the Co-op's goat cheese will stay fresher if the preparer cuts fewer pieces at a time. RH shared the suggestion that the Co-op have an in store white board listing the member specials and basic produce. She also relayed the request for an express check-out line.

DZ emphasized how events such as Earth Day, are outreach opportunities to do education on the Co-op's principles and gain new members. He encouraged the use of signage and brochures to keep communicating the Co-op's message and benefits.

Food Waste Reduction/Composting: Sharing facts about food waste in the USA, ET raised the issue of municipal food waste and asked the Co-op to take a stand to stop food waste. ET noted an organization called foodtodonate.com that analyzes how an organization can waste less food and ensure that usable food gets donated to people who need it. In a discussion on the safety issues involved with "dumpster diving," management heard the request for Co-op to pursue alternative ways to handle shrinkage. AG shared that the Co-op has signed up with Growing Soul, a composting company.

Meeting adjourned 9pm.

Future Meeting Topics:
Volunteer compensation

BOARD ATTENDANCE TALLY:
Term 2014:

<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>
Anderson	(new 3/14)		*	*	
Firestone	*	*	*	Resigned	
Gabrielson	*	*	*	Resigned	
Graves	*	*	*	*	Ineligible
Hardwick	*	*	*	*	*
Hersh	*	*	*	*	*
Rodgers		*	*	*	*
Robinson	*	*	Resigned		
Townsend	*	*	*	*	*
Whorton	*	*	*	*	*
Yanes	*	*	*		*
Zuckerman	(new 3/14)			*	*

APPENDIX A:

Policy Type: Governance Process
Policy Title: G11 – Media Policy
Adopted: March 2011

TPSS Co-op is committed to conducting meetings that are open to its member-owners, except in those cases (e.g., personnel and legal matters) where confidentiality requires operating in closed session. Members of the press, even if they are not TPSS member-owners, are welcome to attend TPSS Board and Committee meetings. However, while TPSS is a community-owned business with thousands of member-owners, it is still a business. To permit access to the press, while creating an atmosphere that allows for an open and frank discussion of views regarding business issues, TPSS Co-op has adopted the following media policy to balance these competing needs:

G11-1: Members of the press are welcome to attend open sessions of TPSS Co-op Board of Representatives or TPSS Committee meetings. If a member of the press is attending such a meeting, the reporter shall take care to identify to the Committee Chair or Board President that she or he is reporting on the event before the meeting begins.

G11-2: The use of video or audio recording devices is not permitted. However, reporters are welcome to take notes and report on actions taken. Photography is allowed.

G11-3: A reporter may quote an attendee, committee member, or Board member at a TPSS Co-op meeting if and only if the reporter gets the express consent of the person quoted.

G11-4: Finance Committee meetings are closed to media unless permission is granted by the Finance Committee Chairperson.