

TPSS Board of Representatives Meeting

Date: April 25, 2019

Board present: Susan Cho (SC), Fred Feinstein (FF), Julia Eddy (JE), Diane Curran (DC), Adam Frank (AF), Susanne Lowen (SL), Sawa Kamara (SK)

Board absent: Rachel Hardwick (RH), Katea Stitt (ST)

Staff & consultants present: Mike Houston (MH), General Manager

Members Present: Ron Davies

Minutes prepared by: Julia Eddy (JE)

BOARD ACTIONS:

- The Board approved the minutes from the March 21, 2019 board meeting.
- The Board accepted the Ends Update as submitted.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board approved the minutes from the March 21, 2019 board meeting.

Open member forum:

Ron Davies was present. He shared his concerns about the Junction development and future of the Co-op.

SC shared some comments from people who attended the Earth Day event – one underwhelmed by vegetarian options, and one complimented the vegan burgers and asked that the Co-op carry them regularly.

SL was impressed with the line up of speakers and professional set-up, but wished there had been better turnout. It was a holiday weekend and if it had been pushed back a week the event would have conflicted with other events.

GM Report:

MH provided highlights from his GM report – all staff have completed the staff satisfaction survey, sales have been up on Thursdays during the Thursday At The Co-op events, TPSS got a shout-out at the NCG Conference for the furlough program.

Ends Report:

The Board discussed the Ends Update MH prepared. All agreed the next Ends report could have more information about the Co-op's community benefits and environmental stewardship. Also MH could remove the part about advertising Board meetings, since that is a Board responsibility.

The Board accepted the Ends Update as submitted.

Committee Business:

Membership Committee:

- The Spring Member-Owner Meeting will be Sunday May 19, 2019, 2-4pm, at the Fire Station. There will be updates from the President, General Manager, a financial update, community outreach update, we will introduce the changes to the bylaws, Susanne could talk about the Cottage Food Law, a union rep will speak, and members of the membership committee will speak.
- SL will put together a one-pager on the Cottage Food Law in case she can't make it to the Spring Member-Owner Meeting.
- The finance report will cover through March.
- SL suggests a theme: the Co-op as a pillar of food sustainability in a growing climate crisis.
- SK shared some of the feedback and perceptions about the Co-op she heard at a community meeting she attended - concerns about prices, variety, and if you have to be a member to shop.
- MH shares that we are never going to win a price war against Amazon or Giant, but we also want to emphasize that we charge fair prices for well-made goods and have a lot of community benefit. MH shares that we are never going to win a price war against Amazon or Giant, but we also want to emphasize that we charge fair prices for well-made goods and have a lot of community benefit. Board members suggested we advertise the discounts more - 10% once a month 5% all the time for seniors. The Co-op could advertise special orders and wholesaling to support buyers clubs. MH is thinking about ways to address the perceptions about the Co-op's prices.

Policy Committee:

SC provided an update. The committee has gotten through revisions to the G Policies and incorporated some of the Board-identified action items. The committee hopes to have something to vote on for the next meeting.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, May 16th

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Committee Assignments:

Policy Committee – Susan Cho (chair), Adam Frank, Rachel Hardwick, Julia Eddy.

Nominations/Elections – Susanne Lowen (chair), Diane Curran, Susan Cho.

Personnel – Diane Curran (chair), Rachel Hardwick, Katea Stitt.

Membership Committee – Fred Feinstein (chair), Diane Curran, Sawa Kamara.

Finance and Audit Committee – Adam Frank (chair), Julia Eddy, Diane Curran, Susan Cho.

Junction Committee – Fred Feinstein (co-chair), Rachel Hardwick (co-chair), Sawa Kamara, Katea Stitt.

Expansion Committee – Adam Frank, Susanne Lowen, Susan Cho, Julia Eddy.

Policy Governance Reflection Committee - Fred Feinstein, Adam Frank, Susanne Lowen, Mary Rooker (former board member).

Board Development Committee – Diane Curran (chair), Adam Frank.

Term 2018-2019 Meeting Attendance:

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Cho	*	*	*	*	*							
Curran	*	Ex	*	*	*							
Eddy	*	*	*	*	*							
Feinstein	*	*	*	*	*							
Frank	*	Ex	*	Ex	*							
Hardwick	*	*	*	*	Ex							
Kamara	*	*	*	Ex	*							
Lowen	*	*	*	Ex	*							
Stitt	*	Ex	*	*	Ex							

(ex=excused)

Board Terms:

Board Representative	Term:	Term Ends:
Cho	3 years	2019
Curran	3 years	2020
Eddy	3 years	2021
Feinstein	3 years	2019
Frank	3 years (consecutive term)	2020
Hardwick	3 years (consecutive term)	2019
Kamara	3 years	2021
Lowen	3 years	2020
Stitt	3 years	2021