

MACOMB FOOD CO-OP BOARD MINUTES

October 16, 2018

PRESENT: Gordon Rands, Randy Powell, Pam Rands, Jeanne Nehls, Tim Mealiff, Rose Elam, Sydney Null (by telephone), Crystal Kepple, Margaret Ovitt, Clare Kernek

The meeting was called to order by Gordon at 6:35 pm in the WIRC office.

MINUTES. The October 1, 2018 minutes were considered. Randy moved to approve the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Jeanne. The minutes were approved unanimously.

BOARD DECISION MAKING. Jeanne, in becoming more familiar with the Co-op Bylaws, and with the recent email voting on spending some of Citizens Bank \$500 towards the purchase of the film Food for Change, recommended we attempt to have a consensus when voting. It can't happen every time, but in the spirit of cooperation, going forward, Board members should attempt to reach a consensus. The Bylaws state if a consensus cannot be reached, then issues can be decided by 2/3 majority vote, or 5 people. Syd suggested texting the Board if a response to an email vote is needed.

FOOD FOR CHANGE FILM. On October 10 & 11, Board members voted via email that the Co-op not to spend \$295 on the purchase of the film using the Citizens Bank donation. Those voting no were Randy, Rose, Jeanne, Pam & Gordon. Tim and Sydney did not vote.

ANNUAL MEETING.

- The agenda for the meeting was discussed. The Board will bring main dishes to the potluck and will provide extra tableware and beverages.
- Address suggestions made at the last owner's meeting, using Rose's, Jeanne's, and Clare's notes.
- Financial report
- Tim will look into texting programs so we can update owners on what we have found. Randy moved to accept Sterling Kernek's offer to pay for the Co-op texting program, based on Tim's research finds. Pam seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Display a list of volunteers.
- Crystal will contact producers to find out how much they made in sales from the Farm Tour. Syd suggested producers keep track of number of visitors, or have a sign-in at the next Farm Tour.
- List events and accomplishments; new producers; new products
- Roll out the Forgottonia Foods logo and inform of the \$5,000 capitalization project for PF
- Food Cart Task Force. Establish once PF is up and running.
- Challenges – achieve break-even status and store location concerns. Sean Park will present location analyses.
- Give an update on COREPOS purchase. Discussion followed about when we need to do a store inventory.
- Food for Change trailer shown
- Randy and Jeanne will count ballots and announce the election results at the conclusion of the meeting.

CITIZEN/MORTON BANK MARKETING GIFT. After considerable discussion, Randy moved to spend the \$500 on a combination of feather banners and yard signs. Jeanne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. It was felt that owners would be willing to pay for the yard signs. Wording/design was discussed, with more discussion in emails following the meeting. Crystal will get a quote from Tim Rice; Jeanne offered to pay for the design cost, if reasonable.

BYLAWS REVIEW. Jeanne volunteered to head the Bylaws review. Karen Hostert will be asked to get other volunteers to help. Other Board members can assist in this.

PREPARED FOODS POSITION. It was agreed to take down the PF position at this time.

FREEZERS. Due to our recent freezer difficulties, Rose will ask Brian to research 2 door commercial freezers as that is his expertise.

COMMUNICATIONS. Margaret asked if anyone had watched the Food for Change trailer? Several had. Two people, totally unsolicited, offered to pay for the movie. The Co-op could use it for membership drives. Arrangements are being made to show it this month. Those details to come.

Clare reported that Greg Kalnes at IIRA has made some changes on the Co-op web site to make it more user friendly i.e., link to the Bylaws; font changes; PDF of the Producer's Agreement. No content was changed.

STORE COMMITTEE. Two more locations were visited on the square. Randy will get in touch with McDonough Telephone Co-op to obtain additional information that can be presented at the Annual meeting.

LIVE LOCAL CONFERENCE. After discussion, Randy moved and Tim seconded to spend a portion of the grant money to cover early registration of \$150 for Crystal. The motion passed unanimously. Two Board members offered to pay Crystal's hotel/housing costs.

CONSULTING BILLS. Pam and Crystal will call Joel and Kevin and ask for their consulting bills as no bills have been received to date.

UPCOMING EVENTS.

October 27. Farmers Market at the store

October 27. Harvest Party/Annual Meeting/Board elections, First Presbyterian Church, Dudley & Carroll Streets, 6:00 pm potluck, 7:00 pm meeting

October 30. Food for Change film, 3:00 pm, Morgan Hall, WIU

October 30. Co-op Board Meeting. 6:30 pm. WIRC offices

November 5-7. Live Local Conference.

Nov. 8 & 15. Turkey pickup days

November 13. Co-op Board Meeting. 6:30 pm. WIRC offices

November 24. Small Business Saturday at the Co-op

ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting concluded at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully,

Rose Elam, Secretary