



Board Meeting Minutes

11.19.2015

Attendance: Isabella Rogol, Desdra Dawning, Eric Mapes, Mohammed El-Sokkary, Matthew Schmezler, Teresa Young, Alejandro Rugarcia (*Staff Representative*), Laura Kazynski (*Staff Rep Trainee*), Fern Moore (*Board Observer*), Cristos P. (*Facilitator*)
Absent: Micheal Snow, Habib Serhan

Agenda

- Agenda Review
- Announcements
- Mission Statement
- Commitments review
- Member Comment
- Staff Report
- Online Voting
- Board Support Team Proposals
- Break
- Committee Reports
- Bio Diesel Pump Station
- CECOSESOLA visit
- Executive Session
- Commitments
- Meeting Eval

Announcements

- Habib and Micheal are unable to attend
- Mohammed will be late
- Central and Tacoma Co-op are proposing a merger
- Election results:
 - 133 verified ballots were counted.
 - 24 ballots were unverified.

Candidate results

- Eric Mapes- 111 votes
- Sam Green - 98 votes
- David Copley- 96 votes
- Marc Hartung- 96 votes

Bylaws Change Results

Yes- 122

No- 3

To stay on track with finalizing the bylaws change to three year terms (i.e. three board members turning over each year) one of this year's candidates needs to have a one year term.

Proposal-

Eric will take the one year term for 2016

Consent

- Alejandro is acting as an interpreter for the CECOCESOLA

Commitment

- *Fern will send election results to the newsletter, website and stores*

Commitments Review

- *Grace will investigate the by-laws in regards to changing the 'dues' terminology pending*
- *Fern will email out the meal train - complete*
- *Fern will contact the I-732 initiative team- complete*
- *Fern will contact the I-735 petition with a 2 week notice - complete*
- *Fern will forward petition responses to the Board - complete*
- *Fern will check in about staff opening for the Advocacy Committee- complete*
- *Fern will email tech about online voting - complete*
- *Fern will set up Elections Task Force Meeting - complete*
- *Fern will send out the Final Annual Meeting agenda tomorrow - complete*
- *Member Relations reps will forward the final Annual Meeting Agenda to Member Relations committee - complete*
- *Fern will forward the Kitsap Community Food Co-op email to Teresa - complete*
- *Fern will reply to Kevin from the Kitsap Community Food Co-op and cc Teresa - complete*
- *Fern will solicit Staff Members to host Kitsap Community Food Co-op from BPC or Outreach - complete*
- *Fern will forward the Boards request to the finance cat - complete*
- *Isa will email Maxim and cc Habib about the Expansion report at the Annual Meeting - complete*
- *Isa will email short list from MRC to Fern about participation in elections - complete*
- *Matthew will meet with Micheal about finance report at annual meeting - complete*

Member Comment

- **Vicki Shroder-** Volunteer at the Eastside Co-op has been in Olympia for a year. She started with grocery stocking, cashiering and is currently a deli volunteer. She loves volunteering and will do it forever. As a cashier you hear negative and positive feedback. One piece of feedback she has heard as a cashier is about the chip credit cards and if our machines are they capable of handling the chip. *Laura answered, that our current technology does not support chips, but we are looking into an upgrade.*

Staff Report

At the most recent Collective meetings we heard from CECOCESOLA. The Collective also consented to the \$15 wage by 2018.

Proposal-

The Board approves posting the \$15 for Olympia signs from Working Washington at our locations.

Consent

The Co-op is proud to be hosting the Leonard Peltier paintings for the month of November!

Proposal-

The Board supports posting the Leonard Peltier art in the store

Consent

The Board offers to take down the Board photos to accommodate the paintings.

Online Voting

Earlier this year the Board asked the Tech CAT to investigate online voting in efforts to increase Member participation.

A report was sent in to the Board concerning this work:

There are a lot of systems available for online voting, and new ones are popping-up all the time. The current plan is to use the paid version of Google Forms to enable online voting for the 2016 ballot, as well as any other membership polling needs we may have. This will allow us to capture email addresses (very useful to keep the membership database updated); and we'll be able to customize the look-and-feel to fit our branding.

However, just yesterday I heard about a free online tool, Typeform, that's supposed to be very good, and I'll be researching that as well. By the time the next ballot rolls around, we'll have had plenty of time to set-up and do testing to determine which one(s) works the best for us. If the BOD has any other voting/polling needs before the next ballot, please give us at least a month's notice (to perform customization, testing, and analytics) so we can have it ready to go.

Board Support Team Proposals

This work was presented by the Board Staff Relations Task force that was started last year in efforts to strengthen and clarify the staff positions to the Board and to increase communication between the Board and Staff. Kitty attended to present the document.

Changes:

Staff rep job description- Desdra wants to add help guide board meeting discussions/ org process

Pg 3- facilitator would not participate in discussions, just staff rep and coordinator.

Pg4- facilitator is an impartial observer, paragraph 4

There was discussion about the board facilitator participating in discussions. There was discussion to clearly identify that their role is not to participate in the conversation but to guide the conversation.

Add to facilitator job description - prioritize facilitation instead of participation, offer insight when asked.

Proposal-

The Board approves the 3 job descriptions as described in the Board Support Team handbook.

Staff Representative - Consent

Board Coordinator- Consent

Board Facilitator- Consent

Bio Diesel Pump Station

Dan Freeman from Fuel works in Ballard presented to the Board. Dr Dan's biodiesel in Seattle is the nations oldest biodiesel station. The station began in 2001. Dr. Dan has been playing with alternative fuels for 30 years. Alternative fuels are the simplest solution for the biggest impact. It takes 3/10 of a gallon of energy to produce 1 gallon of biodiesel. 3/1 gallon of energy to produce gasoline. They use waste cooking oil to produce their biodiesel. Depending on who makes it and where it comes from it is the cleanest fuel. The Industry has had peaks and valleys, and it has always been their goal to support the organic food movement. They are also part of a Sustainable Biodiesel Organization. They produce 100% biodiesel that works in older diesels. Bio diesel is a non toxic material that is easy to distribute. Bio diesel is not flammable and is as combustable as wood or regular cooking oil . It is quite easy to set up a location as it is not hazardous and they have surplus equipment. There is great interest in Olympia, and there are not many options for biodiesel. They would like to help offer their service in Olympia.

They have been successful using social media, some of their customers have relocated down here and requested sourcing bio diesel in Olympia.

In Ballard the station is in a cut down car container that houses a 750 gallon poly tank and a gas pump with a Credit card pay at the pump.

How much sq footage do you need to set up a station, 1,000 gall 8 ft wide 10 ft long and room for cars to get in and out? *Equivalent of 5 parking spaces.*

The Co-op is short on space, but there is a real in need in Olympia for this service. This could possibly be incorporated in expansion project at the Eastside. The Board would need to investigate feasibility.

Next steps include and article in the newsletter and asking about membership interest and possible use.

Committee Reports

Personnel- talked about all Staff meeting, they are going through membership changes.

Member Relations- did not meet.

Standing Hiring - did not meet. Recently consented to four applicants for the hiring pool.

Local- has not met

Expansion- has been working with the Development Co-op on developing rough store plans to use for the financial feasibility portion of the study.

Finance- continued work on the budget.

Eco planning - has not met, but Dr.Dan's biodiesel presented to the Board today.

Discount Task Force - has not met

Co-Sound- We are finishing up the exchange with CECOSOLA. They will be leaving early next week to return home to their families, their loved ones, and their work. Last week we went on a 3 day tour to see other start-up coops in the Northwest. We went to Moses Lake, WA, Hood River, OR, and Wapato (outside of Yakima), WA. We met with housing coops, a group looking to form a cooperative out of a community garden project, and an apple orchard worker's cooperative.

The group also went to Portland to talk with someone about cooperatives in the Philippines. They have also been able to see many organizations here like GRuB, the Food Bank, Familias Unidas, and several more. We have had some wonderful conversations about what "CoSound is" and have led us to think a lot about what it "could be."

Although some of us would of wanted more time to participate in the exchange there is only so much time!! 5 weeks went really really quickly. Next we will begin planning the second part of the exchange - us going there.

CECOSECOLA

The four companeros visited with the Board. They discussed the services they provide and the structure of their organization as well as their values . They value greatly their experience here. The activities that they do allow them to understand each other and themselves more deeply allowing for education and evolution. They meet 3,000 times a year where they share all of their experiences within the various businesses.

Commitments

- *Fern will send election results to the newsletter, website and store*

Meeting Eval

Intense.

Decisions Out of Meeting

- 1. October Meeting Minutes**
Consent

Next Meeting

Board Pages

Community Sustaining Fund

2016 Budget

3rd Quarter Statements