



**Ashland Food Cooperative  
Board of Directors Meeting**

August 12, 2015

**APPROVED**

**Members Present:** Gwyneth Bowman, Joanie Kintscher, Julie O'Dwyer, Gary Einhorn, Jeff Golden, Stephen Sendar, Ian Crosbie, Emile Douglass. **Others present:** Emile Amarotico, General Manager; Ken Crocker, Facilitator; Abby Lazerow, Board Administrator

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Ken Crocker.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION	REMINDERS FOLLOW UP
Confirmation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Gary Einhorn led the positive affirmation.</li> </ul>		
Board of Directors Election Results	<p>The results of the 2015 Board of Director elections were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Total Verified Ballots - 472</li> <li>o Total Invalid Ballots - 27</li> <li>o Total Votes for Joanie Kintscher - 449, 51%</li> <li>o Total Votes for Stephen Sendar - 429, 49%</li> <li>o Total Votes Cast - 878, 100%</li> </ul> <p>o The new Board Directors were congratulated.</p>		
Community Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Owner Nancy Nelson asked to speak on behalf of vegans who shop at the Co-op. She was upset because a vegan friend was not offered a prepared vegan lunch on the farm tour and that person became severely depressed because she believed her community does not respect her veganism. She asked that the Co-op make greater efforts for vegans who shop in the store and requested vegan dishes be separate from meat dishes in the Deli buffet area.</li> </ul>		
Final Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Done.</li> </ul>		

<b>Consensus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Ken reviewed the process for decision-making.</li> <li>o Ken noted he served on a board with Steve Sendar, and served on committees at Siskyou School with Julie O'Dwyer and Steve Sendar.</li> <li>o Directors are expected to read all documents in the Board packet before the meeting.</li> </ul>		
<b>Consent Agenda</b>	<p>Consent Agenda Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o June 10, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes</li> <li>o July 25, 2015 AFC Annual Meeting Minutes</li> <li>o Finance Report, May 2015</li> <li>o AFC Financial Board Calendar/Financial Timeline</li> <li>o 2015 Board Elections and Owner Ballot Summary Sheet</li> <li>o Executive Committee 2014-2015 Annual Report</li> <li>o Finance Committee 2014-2015 Annual Report</li> <li>o Board Development Committee 2014-2015 Annual Report</li> <li>o 2014-2015 Outreach Committee Annual Report</li> <li>o 2014-2015 Community Grants Committee Annual Report</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Board agreed to accept the Consent Agenda.</li> <li>o Steve Sendar stood aside because he did not attend the June 10, 2015 Board meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>Approved.</p>	
<b>Discussion of Board Officers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o There were two people running for the position of Vice President. One Director and the facilitator had resistance to the secret ballot format and thought the Board Officer elections should be public to work collaboratively.</li> <li>o Gwyneth pointed out there was a Board-approved process for electing Board Officers that should be followed.</li> <li>o The Board discussed the pros and cons of a secret ballot and said the Board Officer election process could be changed in the future. It was suggested the BDC should discuss this idea and make recommendations about the process.</li> <li>o The idea of having two co-Vice Presidents was debated but ultimately the Board agreed to go ahead with the vote via secret ballot for this Board Officer election.</li> <li>o The Board Officers are members of the Executive Committee. All Directors who attend the Executive Committee meetings can participate.</li> <li>o Board Officers are : Board President: Gwyneth Bowman; Vice-President, Gary Einhorn; Secretary, Julie O'Dwyer; Treasurer: Stephen Sendar.</li> </ul>	<p>The Board elected the Board Officers.</p>	<p>BDC will discuss the Board Officer election process</p>

<p><b>ion of ittee ersons ommittee ers</b></p>	<p>The Board Standing Committees, Committee Chairs and Committee Members are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b>Executive Committee:</b> Gwyneth Bowman, Chair; Gary Einhorn, Julie O'Dwyer, Stephen Sendar, Emile Amarotico.</li> <li>o <b>Outreach Committee:</b> Joanie Kintscher, Chair; Jeff Golden, Abby Lazerow</li> <li>o <b>Finance Committee:</b> Stephen Sendar, Chair; Gwyneth Bowman, Emile Amarotico, Roberta Stebbins, Christina Oliver, Derek Shilts.</li> <li>o <b>Board Development Committee:</b> Julie O'Dwyer, Chair; Jeff Golden, Abby Lazerow, Annie Hoy.</li> <li>o <b>Grants Committee:</b> Gary Einhorn, Chair; Ian Crosby.</li> <li>o <b>Strategic Planning Steering Committee:</b> Emile Amarotico &amp; Julie O'Dwyer, Co-Chairs; Kelly McNamara, Christina Oliver, Gary Einhorn, Stephen Sendar.</li> </ul>	<p>The Board approved the Committee members and Committee chairpersons.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o A ten-minute break was taken.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>il Meeting v</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Joanie led a review of the 2015 Annual Meeting.</li> <li>o 200 people attended this event. Ticket sales were cut off early to order food. The newsletter said ticket sales went until 4 p.m. on Saturday and some owners who wanted to attend could not buy last-minute tickets.</li> <li>o There were two medical emergencies and many people stepped up to help.</li> <li>o The Lions Club did not understand the chicken brats needed to be pre-cooked and as a result, the meal was served later than planned.</li> <li>o Everyone appreciated how Emile honored his Management Team at the meeting.</li> <li>o The Board hoped more young families would attend the meeting in the future. Ian noted the cost has gone up for the meals and this could be a reason why families do not attend.</li> <li>o The Board said the Outreach Committee did an excellent job and the volunteers were very dedicated. The Deli did a great job catering.</li> <li>o Joanie thought many people were on vacation in July and hoped the meeting could be held earlier next year.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>port</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o To relieve lines for the restrooms in the store, the restrooms will be expanded to make room for two multi-stall restrooms. Some space will be taken from the GM office to accommodate this. These changes will take place in the fall</li> </ul>		

	<p>or next spring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The design of the employee outdoor break area has gone through the City of Ashland Planning Department process.</li> <li>o The MT goal has been to get together four times a year. There was a winter social with spouses, and a spring event where the team went to a winery and conducted team-building exercises. There will be a family event in the summer. Julie suggested having the MT and Board get together for one of those four meetings.</li> <li>o In September, the MT will participate in a leadership workshop with a trainer from the Sacramento Natural Foods Store. The workshop will focus on accountability.</li> <li>o In order to lower energy costs, fluorescent lights in the store have been removed and replaced with LED lights.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Employee or Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Staff morale is very high.</li> <li>o Ian is taking a leave of absence to take the GM position at a food co-op in Florence, Oregon. He will continue participating on the Board during his leave time.</li> <li>o Emile recognized Ian for his service and his willingness to take a risk to gain substantial management experience.</li> </ul>		

meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.