

BELFAST CO-OP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Minutes Nov 21, 2013

PRESENT: Jane Awbrey, Cindy Canavan, Jeanne Gail, Betsy Garrold, Chris Groden, Doug Johnson, Debbi Lasky, Jean Lenderking, Paul Nyren, Bindy Pendleton, Meg Peterson, Phil Prince, Janis Stone, Zafra Whitcomb

GMs: Joe Jordan, Mylisa Vowles

ABSENT: Ron Braybrook, Kip Penney, Jerry Savitz, Chris Grigsby

FACILITATOR: Zafra TIME-KEEPER: Janis VIBE-WATCHER: Bindy

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Maine Food Co-op Conference, for GMs and Boards, being organized by Betsy Garrold and Paul Sheridan, is planned for February 15th. Local Sprouts will cater. Topics and presenters are requested.

CONSENT AGENDA: After a single word correction in the minutes, passed by consensus

MEMBER COMMENTS:

“I’m impressed with the site for the staff holiday party.”

GENERAL MANAGEMENT TEAM: Question for clarification: who will provide the count of member numbers for the monthly Board meeting? The GMs will do that. We are up to 3500 individuals now.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Although the final figures are not in, our profit for the fiscal year is about \$100,000. This will yield a larger member patronage distribution, especially since we don’t have a carry-over loss from the prior year. Recommend that we await final numbers before voting on member distribution, likely at the next Board meeting.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: In thanks to Jon Weislogel from Rising Tide for coming to the potluck, we will pay his membership fee in the Belfast Co-op.

Retreat planning: Zafra will call people from CDS to request a skilled facilitator on policy governance. All Directors will read the material on the CBLD website on policy governance. Jane will send the link again for those who need it. Bindy is searching for a site for the retreat.

PURCHASING POLICY COMMITTEE: The member survey generated 1500 comments, all “really interesting.” The Committee is working on a new policy, and hopes to have a draft ready for the Annual Meeting, but wants to begin writing it after the retreat.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- 1) Reciprocal links to logos of the Co-op and Camden Conference on each others’ websites: GMs will see to that.
- 2) Request that the Board fund up to 2 interested people on the Co-op Board, LTP, or staff to attend the Camden Conference on Feb 21-23 at the Hutchinson Center. Attendance at functions on these dates can be split up between individuals. The Board approved up to \$300 for 2 admissions, by consensus.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: Met yesterday, so no written report. John Spadola gave us a plan for the front end renovation. It shows 20' x 20' double automatic doors, a clerestory, and a small tower, opening up into the produce section. John is willing to work with Larason Guthrie on this. The project is estimated to cost \$100,000 - \$125,000. Directors suggested that the Co-op seek grant money from the City of Belfast, perhaps for the handicapped accessible aspect of the project.

MEETING REVIEW:

HOMEWORK:

- Zafra will look for a retreat facilitator
- people interested in attending the Camden Conference please contact Long Rangers who will allot tickets
- Staff holiday party is Dec 8; please sign up now to RSVP, and in the office for carpooling to Point Lookout
- Bindy will find a site for the retreat
- all Directors visit the CDS website for information on policy governance

NEXT MEETING: Dec 19 FACILITATOR: Zafra BOXER: Phil

End of minutes. Submitted by Jeanne Gail, scribe