

## Belfast Co-op Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - June 26, 2014

PRESENT: Nixie Bombardier, Ron Braybrook, Cindy Canavan, Betsy Garrold, Chris Groden, Doug Johnson, Debbi Lasky, Jean Lenderking, Alessandra Martinelli, Bindy Pendleton, Kip Penney, Jerry Savitz, Janis Stone, Zafra Whitcomb

GMS: Joe Jordan, Mylisa Vowles

MEMBERS: Kevin Donovan, Carolyn Pressley

ABSENT: Chris Grigsby, Meg Peterson, Phil Prince

FACILITATOR: Kip TIME-KEEPER: Zafra VIBE-WATCHER: Debbi

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Alessandra has spoken with Thane Joyal, of CDS Consulting Co-op, who has a list of by-laws from other food co-ops.
- 2) Kate Harris and Zafra attended the CCMA (Consumer Cooperative Management Association) annual conference in Madison, Wisconsin, June 13-15. Keynote speakers were an “inspiring” coffee grower from Guatemala, and a “rather divisive” spokesperson, Venice Williams, for those against “elitist foodies.” Kate attended sessions on outreach and community development; Zafra attended sessions on expansion planning and governance. Zafra also ran for election to the CGiN board, and, although not elected, was appointed stand-by.
- 3) Debbi announced that she may be out-of-town due to family needs.

CONSENT AGENDA: Accepted, with minor corrections and clarifications, with no objections.

### MEMBER COMMENTS:

- 1) Carolyn Pressley supports all the work we do.
- 2) Kevin Donovan stated that he wanted all of his retained patronage dividends returned, with interest. He believes that a business that cannot be successful without retaining, and spending, its members' dividends should close.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Discussion on Policy Governance (PolGov). Ends statements and sample PG monitoring reports have been sent out to directors. The value of PolGov is “accountability, structure, system, efficiency of time use for the board, evolution of process.”

On mechanics of starting and using PolGov: we have already paid for help with adopting PolGov. Zafra talked with 12th Moon, Council (board) President from the GreenStar Co-op, who said the start-up process of converting their existing policies into a policy register was “excruciating” and took a year. Actually using and reporting by PolGov took another year. Several directors suggested that we start by setting up a calendar, with Thane's help, for the sequence of reports. This proposal was agreed upon by consensus.

Other discussion points included related topics such as need for changes in by-laws, ends statement, and long term planning. It was concluded that all these efforts will have to be made concurrently, since they are interwoven.

MEETING REVIEW: There was notable improvement in raising hands and taking turns.

### HOMEWORK:

- newsletter piece
- By-law committee to meet this month
- Zafra and Kate to report on CCMA conference
- Public Interaction committee (Kip) to respond to Kevin Donovan's comments

- Long Range Planning committee: market study plans
- all: think about volunteer sign-up for Community Appreciation Day (CAD)

**PARKING LOT:**

philosophy of purchasing policy

**NEXT MEETING:** July 24; Facilitator: Cindy

End of minutes

Submitted by Jeanne Gail, scribe