

Belfast Community Co-op Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2023, Public meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. at the Belfast Free Library and via Zoom.

Directors Present: Sasha Breus, Corinne Burr, Babette Cohen-Solal, Ernie Cooper (Vice President), Susan Cutting (president), Rio Greeley, John Krueger (treasurer), Jim Miller, Valerie Tate (secretary), Collin Thompson

Absent:

Staff: Doug Johnson (GM), Emily Berry (scribe)

Owners: Todd Bluhm, Annie Bussiere, Jamie Cermak, Naya Flanzala, Alessandra Martinelli, Ashleigh Russell, Charles Sterbach

Agenda Review

The BOD accepted the agenda by consensus.

Announcements

Ernie introduced Todd Bluhm and Charles Sterbach who attended this meeting. Charles and Todd have both applied to be candidates for the 2024 election. Joe Mellone has removed his name from candidacy.

GM Reporting

GM Update Report

The BOD noted that Corinne emailed excellent questions to Doug about his GM Update report and his responses were much appreciated.

The BOD has begun using the communication platform Beekeeper and discussed when to use Beekeeper versus email. There was not a clear answer, however, the BOD talked about tagging someone in a post so that a question or comment directed to them is easily seen and how to receive notifications when items are posted on the BOD streams. Everyone was encouraged to keep experimenting with Beekeeper.

Board Action & Discussion Items

Consent Agenda

The BOD accepted by consensus:

1. The November 29, 2023 BOD minutes and
2. Policy B5 - Directors' Code of Conduct as in compliance.

BI - Financial Condition & Activities

FinCom asked Doug to enumerate better the contingency of the whole renovation project and the contingency of some of the contracts. FinCom would like to discuss the information that Doug provided before bringing this to the BOD.

The BOD accepted by consensus the BI - Financial Condition & Activities monitoring report as in non-compliance with section BI.1, partial compliance with the Global BI, and full compliance with sections BI.2 - BI.13.

Miscellaneous

The BOD discussed whether funds spent on the Cabin Fever Reliever Dance needed approval from the full Board. It was agreed that since the activity had already been approved and it had been confirmed that there was funding in the budget that no additional approval was required.

Owner Comments

Annie Bussiere suggested that the visioning exercise done prior to the BOD meeting would make a great activity for an Owner Forum.

Homework

Annual Report items: Due January 1

- President's Letter word limit: 300-400
- Finance Committee Chair word limit: 325-375
- Owner Engagement Committee Chair word limit: 250-350

- Board Development Committee Chair word limit: 200-250
- State of the Board Update word limit: around 100
- Election and Annual meeting: 100 or less

Full BOD

1. Take policy polls: Global C & D
2. Keep experimenting Beekeeper

Officers

1. Incorporate Columinate training reports into the agenda

Doug

1. Coordinate with Prep Foods re: Annual Meeting catering lead time for cancellation due to inclement weather

Owner Engagement Committee

1. Learn about the intersection of Marketing and OEC roles and responsibilities
2. Brainstorm topics for Owner Forums
3. Keep BOD & Doug in the loop re: dance party plans

Susan

1. Talk to Thane about organizing a local training

Valerie

1. Draft a capital campaign debrief
2. Draft a BOD document storage report

Debrief

Directors were given the opportunity to share comments, concerns, gratitude, and insights regarding the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:41pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Emily Berry, scribe.