

**October 16, 2012 Corrected**

Meeting of the Syracuse Real Food Cooperative Board of Directors  
Office of Thane Joyal

Item	Outcome	Tasks
<p>1. Ground rules</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>Call meeting to order</p> <p>Agenda review</p> <p>Accept minutes</p>	<p>Ground rules read by Karl Newton.</p> <p>Present: Dan Sanders, Amanda Wada, Karl Newton, Walley Francis, Larry Rutledge, Julie Longmore, Jamie White, Chris Fowler, Thane Joyal. GM Travis Hance as guest. Barbara DeVeau, board recorder.</p> <p>Meeting called to order at 6:10 by President, Dan Sanders.</p> <p>Additions to agenda were made.</p> <p>September minutes were accepted as written. Moved by Larry, seconded by Jamie.</p>	
<p>2. Store report – Travis Hance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported no staff changes in the past month.</li> <li>• Sales continue to grow, are up 13% in the past year.</li> <li>• There were 4 proposals for the façade work. Butterfield Construction was chosen to do this.</li> <li>• Travis has been in discussion with the downtown committee and developers of the former Sibley building on Salina Street regarding the possibility of putting a Co-op in a street-level retail space. Very exciting prospect.</li> <li>• NCGA is developing a program for loans to Co-ops planning expansion/development. New program specific to NCGA membership .</li> <li>• Neighbor is causing difficulties regarding the placement of the condenser in the back yard. Steps have been taken to reduce the noise from the condenser. Neighbor threatens to call zoning and police, both of which have already been contacted and found no problem with the project.</li> <li>• Travis reported that the international conference was a wonderful experience, with 2700 attendees, 12 from US natural food stores.</li> </ul>	<p>Travis to meet with attorney regarding permission to be a grocery store. Questions on conflicting paperwork.</p>
<p>3. B7: Membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thane moved and Chris seconded to accept the report as compliant. Vote was unanimous.</li> <li>• It was suggested that the number of new members be added to the report.</li> <li>• Board would like to see a comparison of different years' memberships and to separate shoppers from member/owners.</li> <li>• It was felt that this report is too general.</li> <li>• A review of the policy was suggested, should check with other co-op's policies.</li> <li>• Board feels \$100.00 is a statement in and of itself; current policy is hard to measure how owners can up themselves in the hierarchy.</li> </ul>	<p>Thane and Karl and Amanda will work together to get information for improving our policy on membership.</p> <p>Would like to have membership report more timely, felt that the 4-day notice was not sufficient to properly digest it's contents.</p>

<p>B6: Management Continuity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question was raised regarding the issue of what if any of the managers are out for any extended length of time; are there any plans for continuity? Is there a plan in place?</li> <li>• Other co-ops can step in if necessary.</li> <li>• We need a way to keep the business running if needed.</li> <li>• Current department managers are doing an excellent job and are capable of stepping up if necessary. Have had training and have competent staff to fill in in the short term.</li> <li>• More specific plans for interims need to be put in place.</li> <li>• Report accepted as compliant.</li> </ul>	
<p>4. Committee Reports</p> <p>By-Laws</p> <p>Annual Meeting</p> <p>Nominating</p> <p>Communications</p>	<p>Members – is it sufficient to be notified of membership meetings by mail and by posting in the store? This will be settled by the November board meeting. Not required to notify members if it is for a regularly scheduled meeting. If notification should be by mail or electronically will be clarified and brought to the next board meeting, before it can be put on the agenda for the annual meeting.</p> <p>The biggest expense for the annual meeting will be the mailing of the notice. Other expenses will be \$150.00 for Grace Church, for the group Dream Freedom Revival who will perform, for childcare, food and beverages, advertising and other incidentals.</p> <p>Terms are up for Thane, Jamie and Walley. These incumbents will need to fill out the application for candidates and be re-elected. Thane to resign as chair of the committee (but not the committee) if she decides to run. Noted that store employees are not eligible to be a board member. Thane presented a proposed application outline. After discussion it was decided that the last question should be changed to more positive wording. Nominees will be posted in the store after selection at the November board meeting.</p> <p>There was nothing new to report.</p>	<p>Thane to research and work with Dan to prepare a proper printed piece.</p> <p>Karl will explore finding someone to provide childcare.</p> <p>Prepare ballot sheets and put same in the store for pick-up.</p> <p>Thane to send the revised application to the board before the November meeting.</p>
<p>5. C-policy</p>	<p>There were technical difficulties in sending out the survey. Amanda was able to do this at tonight's meeting. The results need to be back to her by October 30.</p>	<p>Amanda to correlate information received from the survey and send results to the board.</p>
<p>7. Expansion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travis and Jamie are to go to a meeting downtown tomorrow (October 17).</li> <li>• Question uppermost is how can we afford to do the</li> </ul>	

	<p>things that we want to do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous market studies done on population and viability are now outdated. One thing the downtown committee needs is a new market study.</li> <li>• Another question is how to combine a recruiting tool with excitement for the members. Perhaps each board member needs to give a little speech on their feelings about being a member in order to build excitement.</li> <li>• Marilyn is giving up Syracuse and is getting us a new consultant.</li> </ul>	<p>Need to put this on the agenda for the November board meeting.</p>
<p>10. Evaluation of meeting</p>	<p>It was generally felt that the meeting place was great, the food was delicious and people liked the closeness the room created. Please note that the board meeting begins at 6:00 pm, in order to end the meeting in a timely manner. We almost made it, let's do better next month. Six o'clock sharp! Plan to arrive a bit early, in order to select your food and drink and be in your chair, pencil at the ready, at 6:00 pm at the Law Office of board member, Thane Joyal, Jamesville Avenue.</p>	
<p>11. Adjourn</p>	<p>Motion to adjourn at 8:25 was made by Karl, second by Jamie. Approved, unanimous.</p>	