

CNFC Board Meeting
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Tues, March 28th 2017
Suzanne's house: Siskin Lane

MINUTES: MEETING OF THE CORTES NATURAL FOOD CO-OP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

in attendance: Suzanne, Philip, Fred, Amy, Micheal

general manager: Eric

administrative support: Mielle

opening meditation and check-in

Approval of the agenda

motion to approve the agenda: passed

Approval of minutes from the last two meetings

motion to approve minutes from last two meetings: passed

General Manager's report

Staff benefits:

Discussion: Member benefits have not gone ahead. Staff do not want to pay 25% of the premiums (\$24 monthly—the full cost is \$94 per month). As there are also deductibles on the services covered by the plan, paying the premiums for the benefits package may not be economically beneficial for staff. On the other hand, it may not be fiscally responsible for the Co-op to pay 100% of the premiums.

Further, in order to qualify, the CNFC would need four of five eligible staff members to sign up, which it does not have. The CNFC is a three months away from showing it has a 5th person. Eligibility would be determined by a yearly average of hours. This issue can be revisited in August, the middle of the fiscal year.

Cafe

- on-going changes in staffing.

- the cafe is coming out of winter—and sales are 20% up from last year. The plans is to open three days in April, four days in May, and six or seven in July and August.
- cuisine nights have been very successful. Will hold a debriefing with staff afterwards.

Store:

- update on inventory management.
- update on local grower meeting.
- update on fiscal year end: after depreciation is taken into consideration, the Co-op is breaking even.
 - staff wages ate up profits
 - there are more staff hours in the kitchen, which is not yet efficient.
 - summer plans: making in-house hummus and salad that can be sold in the store (idea: what about in-house frozen pizzas?)
 - dream cuisine dinners: will they become more profitable? it is likely easier to make money on the wine (mark-up on wine is 50%)
- update on liquor license: discussion of comments.
 - requirements: forms completed by four board members, a floor plan stamped by engineer, a 'serving it right certificate' obtained by the General Manager, locking storage, and cameras (cameras both protect staff and act as a deterrent to theft).

motion to pursue the completion of a liquor licence application prior to the AGM at the end of June. passed.

Dandy Horse rental proposal

Discussion: the mobile bicycle shop and bicycle rental could sit on the asphalt pad past the Harbour Authority building for the summer months. It will not need power. Standardized rent is \$200 a month. The Co-op would lose a little bit of parking space. Any work done by Co-op staff to support the business, is a separate negotiation.

motion to offer Dandy Horse a rental lease for the summer, for the amount of \$200 a month, pro-rated for the duration that the shop and bicycles and/or equipment remain on Co-op property. The lease is to require that the site be maintained for the duration of the rental, and cleaned up when vacated: passed

Local farmer promotion project

motion for the go-ahead of the local farmer promotion project: passed

Bulletin boards

Discussion: Fred will make a bulletin board with closed glass doors to be hung to the right of the Co-op's front entrance.

Committee reports and discussions

Amy will get ball rolling on setting a date for the land committee meeting after Easter. It is hoped that Sandra could join to inform the committee on grant availability.

Amy will also post a notice on Tidelines in search of an experienced carpenter: tools, experience, willing to work with land committee to come up with ways of doing things will that work with land committee and co-op. Amy will take this up.

Upcoming AGM

Discussion: offering short documentary and popcorn after meeting: (documentary suggestion: Food for Change)

Annual Fee

Discussion: is there something the fee funds could be specifically earmarked for? 350-400 people pay it every year.

Meeting Schedule

April 25th: regular Board mtg

May 30th: regular Board mtg

June 13th (short AGM planning 4-5)

June 26th: AGM

June 29th: (short new Board introductory meeting 4-5pm)

no meetings in July and August

Executive session

(approval and filing of minutes from January meeting)

motion to adjourn: passed (6:15 pm)

closing meditation and round