

**HARVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUBLIC MINUTES
5 MARCH 2012**

Attending: Matt Auerbach, Annette Dufer, Stephanie Golas, Andrew Kessel, Christina Lively, Diane Simpson (Board administrator), Mike St. Clair (general manager, via telephone), Christian West, Scotland Willis.

Leave of Absence: Rebecca Nemeč
Absent, Excused: Wendy Holding
Guests: Maggie Cohn, Sheila Hoffman
Meeting minutes taken by Diane Simpson.
Meeting commenced at 7:05 p.m.

Agenda Review

The agenda review only took a minute and then the meeting proceeded. Action items were reviewed and a round of introductions was held for the benefit of our guest, Maggie Cohn, from Cooperative Fund of New England. Board members also explained commonly-used acronyms so that she would be able to better understand the proceedings.

Member Comment

“Public meeting has been a little thin lately.”

RSC Update

At 7:11 the Retail Strategies Communication committee update was presented. Christina explained that the Board is running a questionnaire for members and shoppers. It will be concluded a little early so that an analysis can be done by April. Christina welcomes assistance from anyone who would like to help. Scotland offered some assistance.

MSCC Update

At 7:15 Andrew gave the MSCC (Membership and Social Concerns Committee) update. He announced that the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) document is up on the website. Peter from Red Sun Press (a worker printing cooperative) presented at the last meeting. He is seeking donations toward a “Year of the Co-op” effort. Andrew would like to support the campaign. Board members briefly discussed the effort, and when assured that it was not some type of endorsement, agreed to support it.

ACTION ITEM Christina: Sign us up for year of co-op.

MSCC is also working on a banner and is trying to make the newsletter more varied (more voices heard). Andrew will work on a member spotlight article. There is a lot of support for the Co-op Faire. Harvest will support it again.

Christian arrived at 7:19.

MSCC had talked about having a synopsis of the Board minutes on the website. Two things:

- 1) Reinstate the public minutes
- 2) Template for minutes synopsis

Andrew envisioned that the person creating the template would rotate among Board members.

ACTION ITEM Andrew: Work on synopsis of decision mock-up.

The Board discussed the idea of having a summary of the Executive Session minutes. It would have to be approved by the Board before “putting it out there.” The MSCC is also working on the GMO issue and on general education issues.

ACTION ITEM Christina: write intro, monthly synopsis of minutes, publish agenda, member minutes, legend for acronyms (or spell them out).

ACTION ITEM Christina: convene Board members to analyze data.

Minutes Approval

Motion: Approve February member minutes.

Scotland moved, and Annette seconded, the motion to approve the February member minutes
Approved 7-0-0.

Motion: Close Member Meeting

Christina moved, and Scotland seconded, the motion to close the member meeting.
Approved 7-0-0.

At 7:50 p.m. the member meeting was reconvened in order to hear a comment from a shopper whose car had been towed. She said she had come in to shop last Monday and was very upset in the parking lot after her car was towed. She requested the courtesy of giving her the telephone number of the parking lot owner. She said she does not earn very much and \$130.00 is a huge amount of money for her. She said she came over to buy one thing—coconut oil. She said she wanted her money back and also wanted to talk to the owner of the property. She was told someone made an announcement but she did not hear it. She said that Harvest needs to get control of that parking lot.

The Board discussed the issue with her and informed her that their cars had been towed also. They pointed out that Harvest does not own the lot and that there are seven signs warning people who park in that lot that they can be towed. The directors told her that they could not give her the landlord’s contact info, but that it was publicly available information and that she could write, email, and call the landlord as well as talk to the Cambridge City Council.

Close member meeting

Motion: Close Member Meeting

Christina moved, and Matt seconded, the motion to close the member meeting again.
Approved 7-0-0.

The Member meeting closed (for the second time) at 8:00 p.m.

Action Item Summary

ACTION ITEM Christina: sign us up for year of co-op.

ACTION ITEM Andrew: work on synopsis of decision mock-up.

ACTION ITEM Christina: write intro, monthly synopsis of minutes, publish agenda, member minutes, legend for acronyms (or spell them out).

ACTION ITEM Christina: convene Board members to analyze data.