

**HARVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
PUBLIC MINUTES  
7 APRIL 2014**

Attending: R. Wayne Clark, Lila Givens, Arash Kani, Leah Madsen, Chloe Rivka (MSCC chair) Diane Simpson (Board Administrator), Stephanie Golas, Stephanie Souza, Andrea Steele, Mike St. Clair (General Manager, via telephone).

Absent: Matt Auerbach

Absent, Excused: David Madigan

Guest: Kafi Dixon

Meeting minutes taken by Diane Simpson

The meeting commenced at 6:40 p.m.

**Vote Key**

Votes are recorded in this order: For, Against, Abstaining

**Personal Space and Confirm Agenda**

**Member Comment**

Member comment from tabling at Arboretum store:

- Certain things in the bulk usually run out and there are no signs saying they ran out
- General flow of the store
- Carts get piled up over by the registers

There was a great deal of good feedback from members at the CSA Fair.

**Minutes Review**

South Street member committee is tabled until the May meeting

Remove the sentence “One director cannot attend.” on page 2.

A director left the room to check the door for more attendees.

**Motion: Approve February minutes as amended.** Motion moved and seconded.  
Approved 6-0-0

The director returned after the vote.

**Tabling/Outreach**

There was a brief discussion about tabling and outreach. Tabling on a weekend day as opposed to MAD days was one of the topics. The Board advisor feels that tabling is not the highest and best use of the Board’s time—she suggested larger quarterly events. One director met a lot of new people by tabling on a weekend, which was great. It was noted that a replacement is needed for tabling if it goes away.

- Tabling at membership drive in May and October?
- Mike will brainstorm at staff meetings about new events and inform the Board
- Tabling on a more varied schedule might be an idea (once a quarter?)
- Wake Up the Earth was suggested by one director
- One director is working on getting Harvest into some of the Farmer's Markets
- Another director suggested the Co-op Faire on the 5th of October

### **MSCC Update**

Chloe gave the Board an update on the MSCC activities. On April 26 from 11:30 - 5 p.m. Harvest will be participating in International Seed Day with the Institute of Near Eastern & African Studies (INEAS), in celebrating seeds, appreciating agriculture and enjoying local and organic foods. Chloe is doing this with Chris Durkin. INEAS is the main sponsor. Event will be in the basement of Roslindale Congregational Church, 25 Cummins Highway.

**ACTION ITEM** Chloe to ask the organizer to get the INEAS event into Roslindale Main Streets newsletter.

**ACTION ITEM** Chloe to ask Chris to put flyers up in the stores about the INEAS event.

### **Board Monitoring**

Monitoring was not done this month. The Board had a meeting in February then a two-month hiatus. Only two responses were received in time for the packet. The Board discussed better ways of getting the surveys done on time. Three months of monitoring are due in May.

**ACTION ITEM** Diane to re-send the links for March and April at the same time as when the May monitoring survey goes out.

### **Election Committee**

The Board discussed the election process. Items are not sent out until June. The Board president requested two directors to look over the current packet and think about how it could be made livelier; and also to think of new avenues to reach out to people. The plan is to come back to the May meeting with ideas for edits. Not all of the packet needs to be redone. All directors except those running for re-election can be on the Election Committee.

**ACTION ITEM** Leah and Andrea will look over the current election packet.

### **Employee Director Policy**

There was a discussion about the "Employee Director Guidelines." The Board wanted to hear the employee side of the issue during this meeting but the employee Board member was not present. The current policy does not have the word "policy" in the title even though it is in fact a policy.

**Member Comment repeated at 7:43 p.m.**

Kafi Dixon arrived. She is a farmer with City Growers. Kafi is not yet a member. She is working with the Family Independence Initiative, (FII) a nonprofit that works with low-income families and families with mothers as the head of household. Kafi would like to create a bulk-buy incentive program because the families need healthy food in the home. They would work on a cooperative model for a year. They need someone to sponsor them by ordering their staple goods. FII also has the Boston Foundation and EOS involved. They are also working with Pen Lowe at Tufts to help implement the proposal. Their web site is: <http://www.fii.org/>

Question: Where are the families from?

Answer: JP, Hyde Park, and Dorchester. They want to expand to 135 families in the summer in East Boston.

Question: Have you been in touch with the Dorchester Food co-op?

Answer: Dorchester food co-op is still growing; has not secured commercial space yet. The idea is when the families outgrow the bulk-buying program they will go over to the co-op.

Kafi will send a written proposal to the Board President. One director volunteered to meet with Kafi and give her some advice.

### **Employee Director Policy**

The directors took up with the Employee Director Policy discussion where they left off.

**Motion: Re-name the “Employee Director Guidelines” as “Employee Director Policy,” and replace the word “Guidelines” with “Policy” anywhere it appears in the document.**

The Motion was moved and seconded. Approved 7-0-0.

A director suggested that it be moved to the Board Manual. The Board agreed by consensus.

**ACTION ITEM** The Board Administrator will move the re-named Employee Director policy back to the Board Manual.

**Motion: Close public session.** The motion was moved and seconded. Approved 7-0-0.

The public meeting closed at 8:10 p.m.

### **Action Item Summary**

**ACTION ITEM** Chloe to ask the organizer to get the INEAS event into Roslindale Main Streets newsletter.

**ACTION ITEM** Chloe to ask Chris to put flyers up in the stores about the INEAS event.

**ACTION ITEM** Diane to re-send the links for March and April at the same time as when the May monitoring survey goes out.

**ACTION ITEM** Leah and Andrea will look over the current election packet.

**ACTION ITEM** The Board Administrator will move the re-named policy back to the Board Manual.