Adopted Minutes
East End Food Co-op Board Meeting
Hybrid Meeting held in EEFC Conference Room and via Cisco WebEx
June 17th, 2024

In attendance:
Board Members: Tom Pandaleon, President; Nick Leise, Vice President; Desmond Zheng, Secretary; Tyleda Worou, Treasurer; Mark Bowers, Lucia Covato, Nico Demkin
Management: Tyler Kulp, Interim General Manager; Jeff Guerrero, MMS Manager
Member-Owners: Phil, Peter, Kate M., Renee
Board Clerk: Jessie Ryan
Absent Board Members: Carlos Gasca Yanez

Introduction
Tom called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. and read the Ends Statement aloud.

The East End Food Co-op exists to enhance physical and social health in our community.
To these ends, we will create:
1. A sustainable member-owned business open to everyone
2. An ethical and resilient food infrastructure
3. A vibrant, dynamic community of happy, healthy people
4. A creative vision to transform the future

Check-In
Those in attendance checked in to express their feelings and any needs.

Amend/Approve Agenda
Decision: Tom motioned to approve the agenda as written. There were no objections.

Amend/Approve Minutes
Decision: Tom motioned to approve the May meeting minutes as written. Second by Nico. There were no objections.

Member-Owners Open Session
Phil attended this month's Resilience Committee meeting and had a few questions and comments.

Renee shared that she has been a member since 2000. She was curious as to what is going to happen when the Co-op's current lease expires. Tom and Tyler shared that we are working with the landlord on a lease extension until we are able to find a forever home in the East End.

Peter shared that this was his first meeting and feels that it is very educational.

Kate asked how she could find out about deals like the raspberry sale and Tyler let her know that social media is the best way to stay in the know.

June Working Meeting Report
The Board met on June 3rd to discuss the HR Audit. Columbus Brooks attended the meeting to discuss the report that he submitted regarding the Co-op's HR practices. Tyler provided an update on the Café opening and real estate matters.

Tyleda joined the meeting at 7:13p.m.

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GM Update

This report is in addition to the monthly monitoring reports. This update expects to give additional information to the Board of Directors that may not be included in the month's monitoring report. This report aligns with parts of sub-policy B7: Communication to the Board…. 'The General Manager shall not cause or allow the Board to be uninformed or unsupported in its work.'

Membership:

Current total Member-Owners: 16,700
Fully Paid Member-Owners: 14,342
New Member-Owners: May - 34 (net)
Total Member Equity: May - $1,674,209
Total Member-Owner Sales: May - $603,742

Register Round-Up Total:

April-June (Q4) recipients:

Community Human Services – https://chscorp.org/
PFLAG Pittsburgh – https://pflagpgh.org/

YTD Total Raised: $5,575.51

Operations Update:

- I attended the Annual Consumer Co-operative Management Association's 2024 Rising Tides Conference in Portland, ME (Portland east). There were GMs and Board of Directors from Co-ops all over the country, just just food co-ops.
- I have done two events now at Fulton Commons Food incubator program. Including a "Shark Tank"-esque pitch competition for the start-up CPG students. Myself, and other local food professionals made up the panel of judges.
- On June 11 I spoke at the Chatham Women's Business Entrepreneurship event with the Western PA SBA.
- We sold 2,497 6oz Raspberries over the weekend. Through 4 Seasons produce we got an amazing pallet deal and were able to retail them at $.79 each!
- YTD Sales week ending 6/2/2024: $12,108,667 which is 7.2% above PY sales.

Updates/Questions/Comments:

- What other non-food Co-ops attended the CCMA Conference?
  - There were financial co-ops and credit unions in attendance.
- Tyler connected with many people at the CCMA Conference, including the Syracuse Co-op. They provided him with several resources including a copy of their new handbook. This was helpful as we will be updating our handbook this year.
- The Hunger Mountain Co-op in Vermont is going through a GM search at the moment. Tyler had a call with the President of their Council to explain how we did our GM search in 2019.
- Any co-op wide trends that you were comparing notes on with other GMs at the Conference?
  - Tyler can discuss this with the Board in Closed Session.
- Do you have any sales profit information on the raspberries? How does it compare to normal sales?
  - The margin as a percentage was not far off from what our normal percentage would be, but the margin dollars were much lower.

- Do you plan on doing these types of sales in the future?
    - No, the raspberries were just a one off sale where we were hoping to generate some foot traffic and excitement on social media and in the store.
- Tyleda expressed that Tyler's attendance at conferences and events sounds very interesting and like great opportunities for the Co-op. She appreciates it!

Committee Updates

Resilience

The Committee had their second introductory meeting and tried to gauge member interest. Phil was in attendance. They will continue to hold meetings open to members and work on a few ideas that might fit member participation. Phil suggested promoting the Resilience Committee on social media to attract more participation.

Finance

The Committee did not meet this month because the B1 Report was not ready to discuss. Tyleda will be reaching out to Shawn and Tom to schedule a meeting before the July Board Meeting.

Board Perpetuation and Elections (BP&E)

The Board Election is still a few months out but they hope to hold a meeting in July.

Member-Owner Participation (MOP)

The Committee met on May 29th. They discussed the MOP survey results and highlighted some of the main comments and suggestions. The Annual Meeting will be held at the East End Cooperative Ministry this year, they just need to decide on a date.

Executive

Tom will provide an update to the Board during Closed Session.

Action Items

The Board will discuss which Action Items should be carried forward at the next Working Meeting.

Appreciations

Those in attendance took a moment to share their thanks.

Closing

Next Meeting: Monday, July 15th, 2024
Packet submission due: Monday, July 8th, 2024

The meeting adjourned at 7:56p.m. without objection.

The Board and Interim General Manager entered Executive Session at 7:56p.m.