

TPSS Board of Representatives Meeting

Date: March 22, 2015

Time and Place: 6:00pm, TPSS Community Room

Present: Rachel Hardwick (RH), Robert Anderson (RA), David Zuckerman (DZ), Tanya Whorton (TW), LuLu Fulda (LF), Bill Rodgers (BR), Adam Frank (AF)

Others present: Abdi Guled (AG), Marilyn Berger (MB)

Absent: Emily Townsend (ET),

Minutes submitted by: Solveig Mortensen (SM)

RESOLUTIONS:

- The Board approved the February 22, 2015 Open session board meeting minutes as amended; AF motioned and approved by consensus.

GM report: AG confirmed that he will be attending the NCG meeting in San Diego, where a topic will be ways that co-ops can be competitive. AG reported that the Co-op has had to close and will temporarily close the small parking lot for Washington Gas. AG confirmed that he is planning to fill the two open managerial positions and that the MAD Money program entails a 10% discount. The Board and management discussed whether the Co-op will be re-considering the Employee Assistance Program due to its current level of usage.

Financial report: The Board thanked the GM for all the included information on the financial statements. **The Board also asked the Co-op to begin providing five year comparisons for each quarter at each quarter and annual end of the fiscal year ten year comparisons, in addition to the month to month comparisons they have been receiving. The Board further requested that the financials report on the fiscal year rather than the calendar year.**

The Board revisited the idea of creating a separate finance committee to more thoroughly examine the finances, yet noted that industry best practices suggest that a co-op's entire Board be the finance committee. The Board agreed that receiving informed or expert education re: the financial statements could help the Board. **The Board planned to include this as a Board retreat topic.**

Ends and Indicators Update: Management noted that page 2 of the report included the ratios from the former financial conditions policy and explained how they are standard accounting calculations even if their inclusion is not prescribed within the new financial conditions and activities policy.

RH talked about the subject of inclusivity as included in the Ends and Indicators report. The Board discussed how to further the Co-op's inclusivity and accessibility to different groups and neighborhoods; **the Board asked the Co-op to pursue more marketing/education, signage, and information gathering.**

Committee Updates:

Membership Committee: LF shared that in meeting, she and the Outreach Coordinator (OC), discussed the OC's role and upcoming events, such as, Earth Day, April 19th. ***LF planned to continue to be in contact with the OC to gather ideas on interactive ways the Board can engage on Earth Day.*** The Board planned to table the event and have the Nominations Committee also be present. LF shared that she and several Board reps. are considering doing monthly tabling for the Co-op.

Nominations Committee: BR shared that he and AF had met and noted that the last outgoing Board rep. had a two year term. The Board understood that if they appointed a new Board rep. to fill the new vacancy that person would serve the remainder of a two year term. The Board planned to pursue and consider new candidates. BR relayed that the Nominations Committee is planning for and considering the following recruitment opportunities: Earth Day (including the chance to Takoma Park Local Access), the Member-owners meeting, the City Council meetings, the City Paper or the Takoma Park Newsletter, and social media. BR also mentioned the plan for Co-op cashiers to ask frequent shoppers if they would like to run for the Board.

BR shared that the deadline to submit a packet to run for the fall 2015 Board election for 2016 will be Sept. 14, 2015 and that the voting for the next Board election will be held from Oct. 5- Nov. 6 2015.

Policy Committee: AF reported that he and DZ met, examined the policies that are due for review, and planned to share them at the next Board meeting. They reported that they were also addressing the needed revisions to the Co-op's current Boycott Policy.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm

BOARD ATTENDANCE TALLY:

Term 2015:

Rep. Dec. Jan. Feb. Mar.

Anderson	*	*	*	*
Frank	*	*	*	*
Fulda	*	*	*	*
Hardwick	*	*	*	*
Richards	*	resigned		
Rodgers	*	*	*	*
Townsend	*	*	*	
Whorton	*			*
Zuckerman	*	*	*	*