

**Willimantic Food Coop Annual Meeting 4/10/11**

Dan Britton- Chair

Alice Rubin - General Manager

Meeting opens at 6:30 after a fine pot luck dinner held at the beautiful Town Hall ballroom (soon to be named after a prominent citizen of the town that Kathleen knows well. Sadly he is deceased)

Thirty-five members were in attendance.

**Election of Board members**

Johnny Walker, Kathleen Krider, Bryan O'Hara.

No nominations were offered from the floor.

Slate was recommended by Dan

Members voted in favor unanimously.

**Financial report -Dan**

Good fiscal health. we posted a \$25,000.00 profit in 2010, sales were up 3% and we have paid off bank loans. A more detailed report will be included in the next newsletter.

**Future of the Coop- Dan**

The general conversation was about our growth, or not as it may be. Dan spoke of the bds. work with Jane Cook and that we really wanted feedback from the members. the survey was mentioned. Some ideas that came from the floor:

1. Expand our services
2. Don't get bigger
3. Can we be involved in the growth of the community w/o getting bigger ourselves?
4. Is "growing smaller" a possibility?
5. A community garden in conjunction with other local non profits

**Store update - Alice**

Things are going very well. Alice spoke of the physical changes and the meat buyers club.

The meeting ended and we introduced Wyn Pittcoff.

**Minutes from Willimantic Food Coop Bd meeting 4/7/11**

call to order: 7:05

attending: Alice, Bryan, Kathleen, TJ, Maiga, Maria, Joanne Todd, Stephanie Golaski, Matthew, Dan  
(Stephanie, Joanne and Erik Begg will need new Bd. member books. Susan Chasin/Dan Britton will work on this)

**Member Speak Out:**

Erik Begg needs to be contacted re: his one year appointment. Alice will do this.  
Stephanie and Joanne are on the Bd. till 2013.

**Minutes from last meeting:**

motion- Maria

second-Dan

discussion: the min. need to reflect that the bd. is feeling either "in compliance" or "not" in regards to the monitoring reports. how do we want to do this? Consensus first and then "head to head". Matthew calls for an amendment to the minutes to reflect that the Bd. will reach a consensus first on all monitoring reports and that future minutes will state that the Bd is either feeling in compliance or not. Further, all policies monitored at that last meeting meet with a "in compliance" approval from the Bd.

No further discussion, passed with 3 abstain.

**Future visioning with Jane:**

Some background was given to new members.

CLICK was discussed, Dan/Maria will extend an invite to a future Bd. meeting to Shosona Levinson who is working with CLICK. Bryan would like the Bd. to focus more on identifying coop needs before we start to collaborate with other groups. It was suggested that we have a brain storming session at the next Bd. meeting to help create a survey for members that asks for input on future goals.

**Retreat dates:** we are looking at 6/26 as nothing in June works for anyone. we also need a venue.

**Annual meeting:**

simple format. Dan will open, we will have a much abbreviated financial report as we don't have an acting treasurer but a full report will be in the newsletter. we should also ask members who are present at the meeting for some future visioning input. Also, lets have a "plan B" in case anyone wants to nominate a candidate from the floor. paper ballots will be available, a counter will be chosen in the moment and Maria will bring the supplies needed to ensure this can happen well. Bd. officers will be elected at the May meeting. Maiga will stay on as staff rep.

**Store up dates:**

Things are good, produce consultant has come and gone and it has made a big difference. Bulk bins and more moving of stuff is on going. Look for great changes in the next 6 weeks. We have paid off the SI loans. Joanne will look into investing money with the Coop Fund of New England. We are working with the Willi farmers market to boost them a bit with sponsors, sponsorship and advertising. Meat buyers club is about to launch. the store seems active and busy.

**Monitoring reports:**

B-4 a change was made to a line in the report to say that "the Director will not fail to go out to bid on items over 10,000.00".

Motion Maria that we are in compliance

second Bryan

passed with 3 abstain.

C's - it was discussed and decided that we would monitor all the C's at once at the next bd. meeting which means that everyone must have a copy of the policy, have read it ahead of time, be ready to ask questions and prepared to bang this out. this is good.

PLEASE be sure that new members all have copies of the policies. thank you.

CBLD trainings will happen on 7/9/11 or 1/8/12 and we are all welcome to attend.

meeting adjourned at 8:35.

respectfully (but not joyfully) submitted by Kathleen