

Willimantic Food Co-op  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 2, 2013

Present: Begg, Clark, Krider, O'Hara, Rubin, Smith, Todd, Walker

Call To Order: 7:12pm

April Minutes were approved.

**Old Business:**

Annual Meeting: All in all was a success. Chairs need to be set in a semi-circle for attendees to feel more included. John Clark had comments from 2 people. One concerned tensions between staff and management the other was about space issues in the back of the store. Alice addressed this issue by stating the board has already looked at reconfiguring the internal space. However, it is almost physically impossible. Kirk needs to give his final report on the SWAT analysis.

Johnnie reported on 501.C3 Tax Exempt Organization. Starting Food Literacy Programs was explored. The board needs to find sources of funding. Kathleen said we can talk about this more at the retreat. Johnnie said we need to write something formal. It will be a separate organization from the co-op with different board members.

Election of Officers: Joanne moved that the current officers be re-elected. Bryan seconded. All in favor.

NCGA Conference: Patty reported there was excellent energy at the conference. The main focus of the conference was on Growth and Expansion. There needs to be organization readiness in the store and out reach to members so when the opportunity for expansion arises we are ready to take it. Kathleen added that Co-ops are outstanding employers of the community, economic partners and lead the way in local products and sustainability.

**Retreat:** Scheduled for August 4, 2013 from 8:30am-3:30pm.

For the retreat: expansion discussion, plan to engage membership and the staff to gather

input from them, each write a paragraph on their vision of the co-op in five and ten years

Kathleen reminded members there is a consult call on May 3 at 10am with Todd. A discussion ensued concerning the consultant and possibly getting someone local. Joanne stated that we have a consultant to aid with policy and expansion.

Alice spoke about expansion and we only have a certain amount of time before we are in crisis mode. We need a price on the building across the street. Patty said we need to look at the grocery store coming to Storrs and possibly consider it as competition.

**Monitoring Reports:** Joanne made a motion we are in compliance with D-5. Kathleen seconded. All in favor.

**Financial Condition:** Kirk made a motion we are in compliance. Johnny seconded. Motion passed. Alice and Bryan abstained.

**Store Report:** Sales Growth 8.19% this month 7.58% YTD  
Down a few members.  
1.3 million in sales so far. Bulk and produce hardest hit.

Next Meeting: June 6, 2013

Adjourn: 9:17pm