

**Willimantic Food Co-op
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

March 5, 2026 6:00-8:00 PM

WorkMode Office Space, 109 Valley St Suite B, Willimantic

Directors attending: Hannah Moore, Tomasyn Goode, Katherine Gavin, Patty Smith, Peter Kirk, Kathe Gable, Stephanie White, Matthew Coolbeth

Absent: Brock Alosky

Others attending: Gabby Davis, James Cashmore-Everton

Call to Order – 6:06pm

Consent Agenda

Action: Approve minutes of February meeting as is. (Motion: Gable, Second: Goode. Motion unanimously approved.)

Monitoring Reports

- Board Monitoring Report C.3 Delegation to the Manager
Action: Approve C.3 Monitoring Report as compliant with revision. (Motion: Kirk, Second: Goode.)
 - o Need to add word “Compliant”
(Motion unanimously approved.)

Delegate Selection for Neighboring Food Co-op Association’s 15th Annual Meeting

- Patty going – Katherine probably can

Appointment of Interim Director to fill Hannah Moore’s seat

- Next month is Hannah’s last meeting – Jess can start in May
Motion to appoint Jessica Larkin-Wells as interim director to fill Hannah Moore’s seat.
(Motion:Kirk, Second: Coolbeth. Motion unanimously approved.)

Preliminary discussion on Board Leadership Succession

- Board members should decide by April meeting if they would like to take on an officer role
- No official applicants yet for new board members
 - o Hannah will reach out to interested parties in the next few days

Preview of Draft Ends Policy

- Email feedback on first ends draft to committee
 - o Committee will create second draft based on comments to discuss at April meeting
 - May be able to vote on it in April meeting, more likely have to wait until May – Patty okay with this

Guest Speaker: Gabby Davis, Presenting “Dissecting the Definition of Healthy”

- “Healthy” vs. “nutritious” – no real consensus on what these mean
- Fed is best – if the option is between no calories or “unhealthy” calories, choose calories
- Circumstances – poverty, physical & mental health issues, burnout affect people’s ability to choose what they eat
- Co-ops often have a culture of shame & judgement around food choices
- People shop for vibes as much as specific products – pronoun pins on staff makes trans customers feel safe
- Institutional racism affects food accessibility – redlined neighborhoods less likely to have stores with fresh foods & produce
- Cultural expectations may prevent people from eating or cooking the way they would like to – i.e. women may be expected to cook from scratch for family events despite disability
 - o Prepared foods programs, pre-cut produce, etc. can help accommodate these situations – have to compromise with plastic use
- Mainstream ideas about healthy eating are white, western-centric
- “I don’t know you personally, but I know you historically.” James Baldwin
- Minding our business about other’s food choices – never know what is going on in their lives medically, economically, etc.

Executive Session on Confidential Personnel Matters – 8:02pm

Action: Motion to accept Patty Smith’s performance review. (Motion: Goode, Second: Gavin. Motion unanimously approved.)

Action: Motion to approve GM compensation package discussed during executive session. (Motion: Goode, Second: Moore. Motion approved unanimously.)

Executive Session adjourned at 8:12pm.

Adjourn – 8:14pm