

**GM Report:**

1. New Front End system - Installation begins Monday on the first upgrade in the FE system at Harvest in at least 10 years, a virtual eternity in the retail business. This conversion includes new ACR scanner systems with touchtone screens, for 11 stations. We quoted programs from the companies providing NCR (current) and Catapult systems for comparative purposes. Four members of Harvest staff were sent to Florida for two day training sessions.
2. Clear Conscience Cafe' - Opened in late October, the cafe' has hit full stride. The Co-op and the Cafe' have realized many mutual benefits, most importantly the sharing of new customers to enhance the respective businesses.
3. The passing of Jim O'Connor - It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of long time Harvest Finance Consultant Jim O' Connor on December 27, 2007 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. In the many years as part of the co-op movement in Boston, Jim has proven to be a valuable resource as a teacher and a consultant in all things Harvest and co-op. Jim was always willing and available to meet anytime and discuss the finances and nuances of co-op accounting with us at any time. Without Jim, this task would have been exponentially more difficult. As a small token of our appreciation for all that he did and all that he meant to Harvest, the co-op and the community, we are going to dedicate the conference room in the Cambridge facility as the James F. O' Connor Community Room. This space will allow us to pause from time to time and reflect on Jim's life and what he meant to the Harvest Co-op.
4. In our eighth year of our Holiday program, Harvest Co-op members and shoppers raised over \$3,000 (\$3,234) for the Greater Boston Food Bank and Food For Free! This was through donations generated over the Holiday Season using "coupon" purchases at the cash registers and service desks.

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Harvest Board of Directors Retreat  
 Agenda – DRAFT  
 Saturday, February 23, 2008  
 Paulist Center, Boston  
 5 Park Street, Boston

The objective of the retreat is to take a ‘step back’ from the ongoing, day-to-day type work of the board and focus on the longer term objectives and hopes of the board’s work and Harvest.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Arrival and light breakfast with management staff
9:00 am – 9:45 am	<p>Visioning: What future do we want for Harvest (with management staff)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What hopes and expectations do we have for the future of Harvest?</li> <li>• What do we have to achieve to get there?</li> <li>• How can we measure our achievement of those goals?</li> </ul> <p>Outcome: List of hopes &amp; expectations. List of general measures of progress and attainment</p>
9:45 am – 10:15 am	<p>Board only Visioning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are our objectives for Harvest</li> <li>• What are our personal objectives for being on the board? (why are we, personally, here?)</li> <li>• What are our common objectives for the board?</li> <li>• What do we want to achieve as a board? (Internal operation of the board and for the coop &amp; members)</li> </ul> <p>Outcome: Common understanding of each others hopes and visions for the Board and Harvest. List of common goals.</p>
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 am – 12:00 n	<p>Board Workplan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure of goals: How can we structure our objectives (combine, clarify, collect) to organize them into themes?</li> <li>• Given our common objectives, how can we plan our work to meet them?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sub-committee work</li> <li>○ Organizing/planning board work</li> <li>○ Increasing efficiency of board tasks</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Outcome: Common understanding of our goals in our work together, list</p>

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	of items to pursue in Board Workplan
12:00 n – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm	<p>Board Workplan (continued): Committees</p> <p>(This work will be informed by the structure arrived at during the 2007 retreat)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarify structure and responsibilities of committees</li> <li>• Clarify board responsibilities in relation to committees (accept/approve committee work)</li> <li>• Clarify authority of committees</li> </ul> <p>Outcome: Common understanding of the role of committees, structures and responsibilities of Board committees. Clarified Committed expectation document.</p>
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	Break
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm	<p>Board Workplan: (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee membership (who will do what)</li> <li>• Timeline for work (schedule)</li> </ul> <p>Board Workplan: Draft</p> <p>Outcome: Agree upon a board workplan for 2008</p>

**Sign up to table with someone from the MSCC on Member Appreciation Days!**

Tabling occurs in each of the stores on every Member Appreciation Day (MAD), from approximately 5:30-7:30pm. Please come to the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting prepared to volunteer for at least three of these dates, and expect to leave committed to one or two. Directors also on the Membership and Social Concerns Committee (MSCC)\* can also volunteer as the MSCC “tabler” on a given MAD evening, through the MSCC sign-up process.

	Cambridge store	Jamaica Plain store
**Wednesday, February 13	_____	_____
Wednesday, March 13	_____	_____
Wednesday, April 9	_____	_____
Wednesday, May 14	_____	_____
Wednesday, June 11	_____	_____

\* Jessie Grogan, Joe Slag, Margaret Lamb, Amy Cotter

\*\* The MSCC’s inaugural member dinner will also be held the evening of Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, so fewer active committee members are available and a third director would be great!