

## HARVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER MINUTES 3 AUGUST 2015

There was an information session for potential Board members prior to the meeting.

Attending: Wayne Clark, Ellen Dickenson, Hunter Gates, Lila Givens, Kashif-ul Huda , Arash Kani (via telephone), Leah Madsen, Diane Simpson (Board Administrator), Corie Scibelli, Meghan Strauchon, Mike St. Clair (General Manager, via telephone).

Guests: Duane DeSaulnier, Lydia Peabody, Courtney Degraff, and Dave Madigan.

### Vote Key

Votes are recorded in this order: For, Against, Abstaining

Minutes taken by Diane Simpson.

The meeting commenced at: 6:45 p.m.

### Check-in and Personal Space

### Member Comment

“There is a space at Hope Lodge that we might be able to use for meetings.”

“There is no Natalie’s orange juice in the store and every time I come in I have to buy a different (and inferior) substitute.”

### July Minutes

**Motion: Approve the July member minutes.** The motion was moved and seconded.

Approved 8-0-1

### Committee Reports-Election

Kashif is eager to get others excited about running for Board of the Co-op.

MAD Day is next Wednesday. The Board will be tabling in the stores.

- Cambridge: Kashif, Lila, Ellen
- JP: Leah & Meghan

Leah has let Chris know that the Board will be tabling.

The Board also might pay a few visits to events at First Thursday.

More Tabling opportunities:

- Sept 9: Hunter & Lila (stores)
- Festival in Cambridge
  - Art Park-ing August 30, 1-5
  - Cambridge Carnival Sept 13, 12-7
- Roslindale Day October 4
- Co-op Faire—first Saturday in October

### Small Groups Book Discussion

Chapter 4 was about assigning tasks and it described how delegating power is a democratic concept (“de-monopolizing tasks”) that helps other people hone their skills. A Board member noted that they are practicing some things very well and rotation of tasks is one of them. Cross-training—happens less on the Board than in the store. Brainstorming—the Board does not do much of this except at the annual retreat. In the early days of co-ops a “seat-of-the-pants” approach was very common. The author points out that although co-ops have to go far beyond that approach now, it is still possible to operate in a cooperative way.

### Board Monitoring

Board administrator to set the target for the monitoring survey as Friday after the Board meeting. This way everyone can expect it on a regular schedule and prepare to complete it when it comes out.

### Monitoring Survey

This month's survey was *C7-Board Committee Principles*. Scores were generally high. There was one 3--on setting committee expectations.

We will use Board committees only to help us accomplish our job.

- 1) Committees will reinforce and support the objectives of the Board.
- 2) In particular, committees help the whole Board move forward when they research alternatives and bring back options and information.
- 3) Board committees may not speak or act for the Board except when formally given such authority for specific and time-limited purposes.
- 4) The Board will establish, regularly review and control committee responsibilities in written committee worksheets.
  - a) We will carefully state committee expectations and authority to make sure they do not conflict with authority delegated to the GM.

**Motion: Approve the Board monitoring survey, *C7-Board Committee Principles*.** The motion was moved and seconded. Approved 8-0-1.

**Motion: Close the member meeting.** The motion was moved and seconded. Approved 9-0-0.

The Member meeting closed at 7:20 p.m.