

PORTLAND FOOD CO-OP Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2020

Board Members Present: Julianne Baroody, President and Interim Secretary; Kerry Vachon; Sarah Alexander; Mary Becker; Lien De Brouckere; Justin Dewalt; Colleen Finnell; Siobhan Whalen

Also Present: John Crane, General Manager; Sarah Braik, Board Assistant; Eliav Bitan, Member-Owner; David Siegfried, Shane Cynewski, and Nicole Byrne, present for Equity Committee discussion

Absent: Melissa Emerson, Vice-president; Emily Lefebvre

CALL TO ORDER

7:04 PM

1. WELCOME/CHECK-IN/ANNOUNCEMENTS

7:04 PM-7:15 PM

Colleen led a team-building exercise.

2. PRELIMINARIES

7:16 PM-7:18 PM

Julianne reviewed the agenda.

3. MEMBER-OWNER FEEDBACK

7:19 PM-7:20 PM

A Member-Owner (MO) expressed appreciation of the Co-op's COVID precautions.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

7:21 PM-7:40 PM

--The Board approved by consensus the July 28 minutes.

--The Board authorized by consensus acceptance of a Paycheck Protection Program loan.

--The Board approved by consensus the revised GM job description with one edit.

The Board discussed the GM's recommendation not to distribute patronage dividends this year because dividends are too small to be significant. The Board made a plan to inform MOs of the decision.

--The Board approved by consensus the GM's recommendation not to distribute patronage dividends this year.

The 2020 budget revision was tabled to the September meeting.

5. BOARD POLICY MONITORING

7:41 PM-7:51 PM

Siobhan presented the C2: the Board's Job survey. MO Engagement remains the area requiring most attention. Siobhan reminded Directors to complete the C3: Agenda Planning and C4: Board Meetings survey by September 19.

6. BREAK

7:52 PM-8:01 PM

7. GM UPDATES AND MONITORING/POLICY REVIEW

8:02 PM-8:18 PM

John presented the B3: Asset Protection and B4: Member-Ownership Rights and Responsibilities reports and answered questions from the Board. The Board supported the idea that John not seek competitive insurance quotes this year, but only consult the current provider regarding the adequacy of the current plan during COVID.

--The Board accepted by consensus the B3: Asset Protection and B4: Member-Ownership Rights and Responsibilities reports as being in compliance, finding them to include reasonable operational definitions/interpretations and evidence to support John's assertion of compliance.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8:19 PM-8:21 PM

Lien gave an update on the activities of the Equity Committee.

Sarah Alexander announced that Emily has assumed the role of Chair of the Perpetuation Committee.

9. EDUCATION AND EVOLUTION

8:22 PM-8:58 PM

Mary led a discussion of Cooperative Principles 3 – Member Economic Participation; 4 – Autonomy and Independence and 5 – Education, Training and Information through a racial and economic equity lens.

10. CLOSING FORUM

8:59 PM

11. NEXT MEETING

9:00 PM

The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, September 22, 2020 from 7:00-9:00 PM (taking place remotely).
At 9:00 PM the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah M. Braik

Board Assistant