

Maple City Market
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
Monday August 18, 2014. 5:00-9:00
Location: 232 South Main Street, Goshen

Attendees: Phyllis Miller, David Gerber, Ava Breniser, Myrna Burkholder, Vicki Mast, Jill Weaver, Alex Holtz (late)

Absent: Robin Ebright-Zehr, Brian Wiebe,

Others Attending: Josiah Metzler, Danny Newcomer, Greg Imbur, Bob Rademaker, Chris Horst, Shae Miller, Tristan Beechy-King

Board: Share Meal / Team Building: (5:00)

- The Team shared a wonderful dinner provided by the Deli. Many thanks for the effort made by Deli staff to provide us with delicious wraps! The fruit mix, including wonderful cantaloupe, was a special treat as well.

Preliminaries: (5:30)

- Go-Round/Check-In
- Declaration of quorum and commitment to stay on task

Approve / Amend Agenda: (5:35)

- One item was added to the “Discussion” section.
- **Motion:** To approve the agenda with one additional item (JW move; AB second)
 - No discussion
 - Vote 6/0/0, Motion passes

Consent Agenda: (5:40)

- Minutes of 2014 June meeting
 - **Motion:** To approve the minutes (VM move; AB second)
 - No discussion
 - Vote 5/0/1, Motion passes
- Board Self Monitoring – compliance
 - R.1 Unity of Control
 - **Motion:** To approve R.1 Unity of Control (VM move; AB second)
 - No discussion
 - Vote 6/0/0, Motion passes

Question from Josiah M: Is the Board monitoring itself? If so, how? It was explained that the board has obligations to fulfill as stated in governance policies, a part of which are reviewed annually as scheduled at each board meeting.

Board Decisions: (5:52)

- **Committees:**
 - **Approval of Finance Committee**
 - **Motion: (DG move; VM second)**
 - **To approve the committee with Ava B as chair (and Board treasurer)**
 - **Discussion: Its primary purpose? To interpret for the board financial data as presented by the manager.**
 - **Vote 7/0/0, Motion passes**
- **GM Monitoring:**
 - **X.3 Asset Protection – This will be updated by Josiah M at a later date.**
- **Proposed changes to Policy Register for future monitoring:**
 - **R.1 Unity of Control – no changes proposed**
- **Board Member Orientation: It will be discussed at the next Board meeting**
- **Committee Definition/Charters**
 - **Board Recruitment & Retention: Since Brian W as chair was absent, it will be discussed at the next meeting.**
 - **GM Compensation & Evaluation: Alex H hasn't asked another Board member to join him though he intends to do so.**
 - **CAFÉ: Ava B wondered if it can't evolve beyond what it has been, and she was told "yes." Other members should include one staff person and two board members. Should the GM be a member? Maybe or maybe not.**
 - **Annual Meeting: Myrna B said that Dave G will serve on the committee. She has not recruited a community person as yet nor has she set up a time for getting the committee together.**
- **GM Search Committee Update: Alex H said that the position has been advertised on-line in the Cooperative Grocer, and he said it has been set up to advertise the position in the Sunday edition of the Elkhart Truth though it has not appeared as yet. He said it will be advertised in other publications and local papers.**

Discussion: (6:02 – 6:30 and 7:20-7:45)

- **GM Reports:**
 - When reviewing his report, Josiah M commented on successful sending out of an E-mail version of the MCM newsletter. He also noted that insurance coverage for losses during the power outage on July 1st appear to give sales a boost for the month, but it would have been a good month anyway. He thanked board members for helping to de-clutter the backroom.

- **Bylaw revisions – final draft:**
 - There was a brief discussion about the meaning of Article VI. Patronage Dividends and how this has been applied at MCM. However, since the revisions appear to be OK, the final draft will be taken to a lawyer for a legal review after which the Board will vote on its acceptance.

- **Change of the Board calendar :**
 - It was agreed to move X.6 Staff Treatment & X.7 Staff Compensation until later and move up X.8 Communication to the Board & X.9 Board Logistical Support.

Related to this, there was discussion about X.7 in terms of staff salaries. While it is the responsibility of the GM to determine specific amounts, there was a question about whether something shouldn't be built into policies which would suggest a high value for staff which in turn would suggest comparable remuneration. Jill W volunteered to assist Phyllis M to work on such changes which would hopefully be in place before the appointment of a new manager.

- **Upcoming Events: :**
 - The Board Retreat is scheduled for the evening on Nov. 7 and all day on Nov. 8th and will possibly be held at Merry Lea. Board members will also attend the Cooperative Café on October 26 at Mt. Pleasant, MI. It is hoped that staff can also attend as they did last year.

Community Education: (6:30)

- **Topic: MCM Staff – perspective on Healthy People, Planet & Commerce**

Staff members each spoke for several minutes about their “dreams” for the future of MCM. Here are a few thoughts from each:

- Bob Rademaker said he is glad that MCM is located downtown but would wish for expansion as well as various kinds of improvements on the inside of the store.

- Greg Imbur said he would like to see staff offices moved to the back of the building. He also wishes that someone could be paid to work on the issue of food waste.
- Chris Horst said that he wishes they could freeze local produce so that not so much would have to be used from the West Coast. He also wishes for a better place to park the bicycle he rides to work and for solar panels and/or wind turbines.
- Shae Miller wished for more opportunities to educate the community and for stronger ways to support local farmers.
- Tristan Beechy-King said that he could imagine a 100% commitment use of local products in the deli. He would also like to see MCM organize local farm tours, a presence at the Farmers Market, an incubator kitchen with classes there and many other good ideas!
- Danny Newcomer wishes for a larger building, more juicing with non-salable veggies and fruits from local farmers, and more gluten-free options produced off-site from the deli.

New Business / Comments from the Community:

- No new business.

Closing: (7:45)

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting (DG move; JW second)
 - No discussion
- Vote 7/0/0, Motion passes

Submitted by Myrna Burkholder, Secretary

8/21/14