

Board Study & Policy Scenarios: July 2015

Board Study: Innovative Distribution Models

Guest speakers Steve Warshawer, Enterprise Development Coordinator for La Montañita, and Michelle Franklin, Director of the Co-op Distribution Center will join us for a conversation about distribution models and La Montañita's value chain.

There are no readings for this month!

Policy Scenarios

Please complete these scenarios (and bring any questions you have about them) prior to the Board meeting.

Scenario 1:

A Co-op member attends the July meeting to ask the Board of La Montanita to write a letter (or sign the letter the member has brought with her) in support of a grant proposal for a healthy communities initiative being undertaken by a local non-profit. You, as a member of the Board, agree that the Board should write this letter. Referencing the policy manual, briefly explain how this could be accomplished the time-frame for the effort.

Scenario 2:

You are at a social event where you meet someone who is “Director of Engagement” for a local cultural organization. You and she have a brief conversation about the co-op (she says she's “kind-of” a member in that she's listed on her roommate's membership) and she has some great ideas about what the Board could do to engage with the membership. She doesn't want to be on the board, but says she'd be happy to serve on the Member Engagement committee. What does the policy manual say about this?

Scenario 3:

An Advisory Board Member raises the idea of partnering with a certain local organization on a new initiative. A newly elected Board member thinks this is a great idea, and is surprised by the frosty reception the idea gets from the other Board members. During a break, the Board President explains that there is some history there, and it got ugly: “they were even threatening to sue us.”

The new Board member and the Advisory Board member decide they need to review the relevant documents, both so they know this specific case, and also to better understand generally what can go wrong in these kinds of partnerships.

How do they go about this?