

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

### **La Montañita Co-op**

December 19, 2017, 5:45 pm

901 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque NM 87107

LMC Monthly Member Board Meeting

**Board Directors Present:** J. Glover, J. Anaya, C. Jones, M. Joe, M. Hildebrand

*Directors Absent:* G. Dennis – resigned, effective December 18th

*Quorum Present?* Yes

**Others Present:** J. Phy (COSO), T. Massey (CRO), New Board Directors present (not yet seated) – S.

Michie, J. Swan, and D. Bacon

**Members Present that signed in:** P. Cahalan, R. Zaragoza, A. Whiteley, D. Duran, A. Satpathi, I. Kesslek, C. Baron, S. Grogan.

**Members Present Via Videoconference:** E. Wheeler

#### **Proceedings:**

C. Jones called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm, welcomed everyone. He introduces J. Phy (COSO) and T. Massey (CRO) that they will be going through the Member Survey results.

#### **Discussion Forum:**

J. Phy: He introduced himself and opened the video slide presentation of the Member Survey. He mentions that a statistician is still working on the info. He gives credit to JR Riegel (staff) for his assistance. He mentions that there were 3,644 responses, 23% of our total membership base. T. Massey (CRO) comments that this is a very good response rate. J. Phy continues going through the slides and the information. Comments from board and owner members regarding how and when the information will be shared with everyone. – they are working on that still.

#### **I. LMC Business Meeting**

C. Jones opened the meeting at 6:15 pm.

1) Approve the Agenda:

*Issues Raised:* None

*Actions Taken:* M. Joe motioned to approve.

M. Hildebrand seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

*Actions Required:* None.

2) Approve Consent Agenda

*Issues Raised:* None

*Actions Taken:* M. Joe motioned to approve as written.

J. Glover seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

*Actions Required:* None

#### **II. Committee Updates**

1) Policy Development Committee: (P. Cahalan, member-owner on committee)

a. Mentions the 5 or 6 priorities of 2018 including revisions still needed in the bylaws.

2) Membership Engagement Committee: (C. Jones)

a. Discussion of membership outreach, including workshops – as referenced to in the member survey.

b. Earth Fest in April – planning....

3) Elections and Nominations Committee: (R. Zaragoza, member-owner on the committee)

a. Discussed issues surrounding getting information from board members for upcoming board orientation.

b. A. Satpathi expressed concerns/issues of the legality of such meeting/orientation.

#### 4) Finance Committee (J. Glover)

- a. Upcoming financial audit, more to be shared in the new year.
- b. Banking transition away from Wells Fargo is near – likely in Jan.
- c. Membership dividend to be distributed. Will be available at the register to use with purchase. next quarterly update.

#### 5) Member Questions and Comments on Committees:

- a. C. Jones (board member) comments about the need for more coordination with the individual committees. How they can be creative and work around members schedules.
- b. Member owner P. Cahalan expresses interest in seeing the other owner members from the other locations.

### III. LMC Business

#### 1) Introduce new COSO and CRO (C. Jones)

a. T. Massey (CRO): Provides background information to his 21 year work history. He left mainstream grocery world and came to work for a coop in CA (North Coast). He wished to utilize his true self and shop where he worked. Afterwards, he started his own business in carpentry. He is a professional grocery store manager – here to support staff. Helping to make people better is what he loves most. He's here because of the people, and he believe in the mission.

b. J. Phy (COSO): Grew in in Lubbock TX, in a not so healthy food oriented household. He moved to Albuquerque and shortly found La Montanita Coop. People is a primary factor for being here.

c. More background info on our new CRO & COSO can be found in the previous BOD meeting in Nov.

d. C. Jones introduces and seats at the board table the three newly elected board members and gives them time to introduce themselves.

1. J. Swan: Member of LAM since 2009. Came from the Pacific NW, family is from Socorro. Moved back to NM and became interested in gardening, attachment parenting, and food as medicine. Has two children that spend much time in nature. Owns Swan Kitchen – serving 600 children p/year. She's doing this for our kids future.

2. D. Bacon: Provides a story about piki bread making, alluding to the renaissance in the pueblo world. He comments about the plight of American farmers and the issue of high suicide rates. He wants to bring farming and farmers to the forefront.

3. S. Michie: Moved to NM about 10 years ago to teach at UNM (Business Management). Came to the board because she saw undesirable changes.

e. C. Jones announces that G. Dennis has resigned from the La Montanita BOD. The vacant position will be posted online and applications taken in early January.

f. Member owner E. Wheeler (video) and J. Glover discuss options of how to proceed in the filling the empty board seat, including the third staff option. C. Jones mentions that we need to receive applicants and have the Board come to an agreement. Look for an announcement for interested applicants.

### IV. Member Comments

1) A. Whiteley commented and questioned whether or not the Take Back the Coop Facebook page should be endorsing candidates in the recent BOD election, and moreover their influence on future elections.

2) D. Duran thanks the four board members that responded to the inquiry about this from questions to the board.

3) A. Satpathi mentioned that the bylaws that were voted upon by overwhelming majority.

4) S. Michie stated that she believes as long as the group believes in the basic mission of the coop, they are ok to voice their opinions.

- 5) R. Zaragoza comments about what it means to be a board member. Goes into the requirements from the bylaws.
- 6) C. Jones responded to R. Zaragoza saying that as the bylaws needed revising, the orientation needs revising, as well.
- 7) C. Baron asked about the member survey – It might be good to ask what skills a member owner has to assist the coop and how much time each month they would be willing to give. And, then contact them. Also, she stated that she doesn't hear the board deliberating about anything and would like to hear more deliberation. She mentioned that there ought to be a way to have the deliberations be more transparent and urged each of the BOD to read the "Talk with the Board" e-mails.
- 8) E. Wheeler (recent BOD President) read P. Luciano's statement for the new board members and her wishes for the board's conduct/performance.
- 9) C. Jones acknowledges issues with getting member owners more involved.
- 10) J. Glover wished to acknowledge the tremendous leadership and contributions of outgoing board members E. Wheeler and A. Satpathi.

**V. Adjourn Member Session.** Motion was made by J. Glover to adjourn; Motion was seconded by M. Joe at 7:24 pm.