

WHOLE FOODS COMMUNITY CO-OP, INC.
Minutes of 2021 Annual Owners Meeting held online via Zoom Conference Call
October 26, 2021, 6pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Owners were welcomed and invited them to use the Zoom chat to introduce themselves. Gavin St. Clair provided musical entertainment.

Board President Jamie Harvie introduced the agenda and WFC Board members using a board member compilation video.

Jamie called the business meeting to order at 6:07 with ~115 owners in attendance. Jamie shared that notice of the 2021 Annual Owner Meeting was distributed to all Co-op Owners via the October 2021 issue of the Garbanzo Gazette.

STATE OF THE CO-OP REPORT

General Manager Sarah Hannigan was introduced. Sarah provided the State of the Co-op Report for the 2021 Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021. She highlighted information from the Annual Report including sales; equity investments from new Owners; investments in staff wages and benefits; local inventory purchases including MN/WI purchases and those from the Lake Superior Bioregion; Access Discount and Fran Skinner Memorial Matching Fund participation; Co-op donations and sponsorships; education and outreach; GIVE! Non-Profit Support Program and Grow Local Food Fund; and Co-op financials including the impact of the Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness.

ELECTION RESULTS

Jamie Harvie gave recognition to fellow board members Kim Nordin, Mickey Pearson and Brandon Smith who will be leaving the Board. Mickey Pearson received special recognition for his nine years of service.

Board Member Emily Kuenstler was introduced. Emily announced the results of the election:

- Meeting Minutes from the 2020 Annual Owner Meeting were approved.
- Board of Directors were elected as follows:
 - Sarah Erickson - three-year term
 - LeAnn Littlewolf - three-year term
 - Vidar Sanchez - three-year term
 - Robin Pestalozzi - one-year term

Denfeld Front End Manager Ian O'Sullivan was introduced. Ian thanked everyone who cast their vote in the Owner Election for GIVE Non-Profit Support Program recipients, using ranked choice voting. Ian announced the GIVE Non-Profit Support Program participants for 2023: Life House, Loaves + Fishes Housing, Inc., CHUM, St Louis River Alliance, Duluth Community Garden Program, Whole Foods Co-op Access Discount, Planned Parenthood, Family Freedom Center, Duluth Farm to School, Center Against Sexual + Domestic Abuse, Inc, American Indian Community Housing Organization, and Animal Allies Humane Society.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE CO-OP

Board Vice President Kim Nordin was introduced. Kim facilitated Remarks for the Good and Welfare of the Co-op wherein Owners shared their comments via video, audio and chat channels. Remarks from Owners are as follows:

- Renee Willemssen: Curious about how members of the public find out about the Access Discount and the Fran Skinner Memorial Matching Funds.
- Lee Pedersen: E-commerce is not tracking the patronage of her account. Not getting discounts, and not able to round up for GIVE.
- Brandon Smith: Honor and privilege to serve on the Board, after being an employee. So grateful for the leadership on the Board. Congrats to the new Board members.
- Scott Hart: Local Food! WFC Deli is very good.
- Paul Chialastri: Thanks to Board, and wonderful employees doing an incredible job through the tough times. Gracious, and so grateful to them. Already looking forward to in-person, annual dinner together. Thanks!
- Jen Gilbertson: Commend the Co-op on the response to and handling of the pandemic. Teamwork has been extremely gratifying. Took the time to make staff feel safe, at a time when it was not easy. Co-op strived to support community and others through this difficult time.
- Wayne Pulford: WFC is part of his strategy to stay healthy. He just knew WFC would do a good job. AND still supporting Local during it all. General areas of Board would be good to work toward diversity on the board, especially geographic diversity. Thanks to all Board for their work, and employees present.
- Gieger Yount: Shared a tribute to Fran Skinner, who was an original Co-op founder. She was faculty in School of Social Development. The Fran Skinner Memorial Matching Fund is a gift that continues is a living tribute to her work. A shout out for her!

GROWN LOCAL FOOD FUND

Jen Krussow, Hillside Store Manager was introduced. Jen shared an overview of the Grow Local Food Fund, and introduced a short film by DanSan Creatives featuring the first three Grow Local Food Fund recipients.

After the film, Jen announced the Fall 2021 Grow Local Food Fund recipients:

INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY: LOCAL LOVE

Jamie Harvie introduced the breakout sessions where meeting attendees were put into random groups of 4 in a “virtual room” to get to know one another. Owners were asked to introduce themselves and share a memory of the Co-op or of any other place that brings you joy. Afterwards Jamie asked for a few Owners to share what they shared with the larger group.

DOOR PRIZES

Jen Gilbertson, Education and Outreach Coordinator drew for Co-op gift baskets using a virtual wheel.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President Jamie Harvie thanked everyone for joining and expressed gratitude for the Owners that attended the 2022 Annual Owner Meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jamie Harvie, Board President and General Manager Sarah Hannigan