



HILLSIDE

610 East 4th Street
Duluth, MN 55805

DENFELD

4426 Grand Avenue
Duluth, MN 55807

www.wholefoods.coop

218.728.0884

Whole Food Co-op Board of Directors Board Meeting Owner Listening Session Guidelines & Etiquette

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The Board of Directors (BOD) extends a warm invitation to Owners to join the monthly Whole Foods Co-op (WFC) board meetings. As the WFC's community of Owners continues to grow, our on-going mission remains steadfast: to empower Owners to engage with the WFC. Attending a board meeting is a meaningful way to participate.

The BOD's responsibility is to develop, implement, and monitor policies to articulate the vision and mission of the WFC. The General Manager serves as the BOD's sole employee, and the BOD collaborates closely with them to set the WFC's vision, ensure that the policies align with the vision, and work to best serve the needs of the Owners and all those who interact with the WFC.

The BOD operates as a unified entity, speaking with one voice to ensure clarity and consistency in our communication. These guidelines are designed to facilitate productive participation at board meetings.

We encourage Owners to register in advance if they plan to attend, whether in person or virtually. In the event that meetings must be held virtually, pre-registration will also enable us to reach out to those planning to attend promptly. For registration, please contact the Board Administrator, Holly Wolfe at hollywolfe@wholefoods.coop.

Key points

- Meetings start promptly at 5:30 p.m. At the onset, Owners are invited to share their remarks with the BOD. Each Owner will be allocated up to 3 minutes, depending on the number of attendees. The time for all remarks will be limited to 24 minutes.
- Following the Owner's remarks, the open business meeting will commence. Please reserve any comments or questions until the open business meeting ends, where the BOD will hold a brief question and answer period for additional Owner comments/questions.
- Owners are encouraged to remain for the open session of the board meeting and will be provided with an agenda. Additional meeting materials can be available after the meeting if they are not restricted due to confidentiality.
- If the allocated time is insufficient to express insights, concerns, or comments, the BOD encourages Owners to share them via email or letter.
- Kindly note that the BOD operates as a unified voice. While the BOD values Owners' input, individual directors cannot respond on behalf of the entire board.
- Owners will receive a follow-up email to provide additional opportunities to share feedback and comments as well as receive any individual response from the BOD as necessary.

Thank you for your interest in attending and learning more about the role and responsibilities of the Whole Foods Co-op Board of Directors!