

Yard to Market Minutes

February 23rd, 2015

Meeting starts at 7:04 p.m. with Annelies Lottmann, Jen Mack, Christa Zufelt, Sarah Kopper, and Lesley Belle present. Haley Bradley is participating via Google Hangout until part way through the discussion on Policy Monitoring B3.

Member open time

No items

Minutes

Dec minutes: Haley is waiting on materials from Annelies to combine with her notes. We will get a completed version at the next meeting.

Jan minutes: There is a gap in the middle where written notes need to be added. The Board decides to table the vote until next month when they are complete.

Membership Committee Update

Discussion of when the next event will happen. In April event to coincide with check disbursement? With annual meeting (May 2)? Will the spring gardening class be too late? We don't want to spread our members too thin by having too many events. Possibility of having something at the farmstand? Committee will get together to discuss further.

Membership Handbook Update

Sarah presents the updated language for the foraging guidelines for a vote. The proposed language reads:

Member-owners are allowed to sell foraged goods if they are able to verify that the foraged goods meet Yard to Market standards. Before the foraged goods can be sold, the member-owner must receive written confirmation from the landowner that the property in question does not use synthetic inputs and complies with the City's Grow Green guidelines. Once a foraging site is approved, we will add it to a list of approved sites available to member-owners.

Lesley asks that the Merriwether foraging ethics guidelines be included.

Discussion about whether or not getting written confirmation from property owner is too high of a bar to set. Is it necessary? Board decides that written confirmation from the member-owner will be sufficient.

Lesley asks that we strike the last sentence so that member-owners can opt out of including their foraging site in the foraging map.

Discussion about whether we need to know what produce comes from what foraging site if member-owners are foraging from multiple places. There is a consensus that it is not necessary.

Christa moves that the following language be added to the handbook, seconded by Sarah:

Member-owners are allowed to sell foraged goods if they are able to verify that the foraged goods meet Yard to Market standards. Before the foraged goods can be sold, the member-owner must agree to follow the Foraging Ethics available on Merriwether's guide to edible wild plants in Texas and the Southwest. Additionally, the member-owner must provide written confirmation that the property in question does not use synthetic inputs and complies with the City's Grow Green guidelines.

Motion passes 4-0-1

Nominations Committee Update

Haley agrees to serve on the committee with Annelies (chair). Annelies will try to find at least one non-Board member-owner to join as well.

The committee plans to recruit people to run over the next month. Candidates will fill out a form with information about their candidacy by the end of March so it can be sent to the membership at large by April.

Discussion of the need to create a transition plan for the new president in May.

Policy Monitoring C7

Haley will have it for the Board by the March meeting.

Policy Monitoring D1, submitted by Sarah

Moved to accept the report by Annelies, seconded by Jen. 4-0-1

Policy Monitoring B3, submitted by Lesley

Discussion about insurance renewal. Annelies informs us it will automatically renew in mid-March, but she is in contact with our insurance agent about possible changes and updates. Specifically, she is looking into adding some personal property (laptops and other devices) to the policy and learning if there need to be any adjustments now that we are selling cottage foods.

Christa has questions about the security of personal information. Lesley assures us that all financial transactions are handled through third parties (Square and Stripe), which have their own protections in place. We decide that going forward we will have a yearly update on the security of our site and any personal data stored electronically to ensure Yard to Market is keeping up to date with the latest security measures.

Changes suggested by Lesley to policy B3:

- Moving B3.5a to its own section—B3.9
- Changing the wording in B3.2 to read “Allow unnecessary exposure to liability due to lack of insurance protection.”

Sarah moves to accept the report with the above changes, seconded by Christa, passes 4-0-0

Profit and Loss

Christa requests that we see multiple months of the farm supply purchases and sales to get a better picture of the trend.

Balance Sheet

Accounts receivable are primarily from the sale of farm supply goods. We plan to transition these items to the online store so there are less invoices sent out and most items are paid for up front.

Other items

Lesley requests that the Membership Engagement Committee plan a quarterly event to coincide with the disbursement of checks.

There was some confusion about where all of the Board materials (like the policy register and Board packets) are being kept and the need to have them in a central place that we can all access. Further discussion will happen at the next meeting.

Annelies requests that we all brainstorm ideas for the Annual Meeting since every Board member will be presenting something at that meeting. Our talks can either be about co-ops in general, our co-op specifically, or other amazingly interesting and important information that we feel our membership would like to know.

Calendar Review

Crop Swap on **March 1st**—Very informal, at our stand before the market starts

Next Board meeting will be March 16th at 7 p.m.

Annelies will be representing Yard to Market at the Sunshine Garden Seedling Sale on March 7th

Christa moves to adjourn, Annelies seconds. Motion passes 4-0-0.