

November board meeting 11.17.14

called to order 6:35

present: Christa Zulfelt, Jen Mack, Greg, Sarah Kopper, Haley Bradley, Annelies Lottmann, Lesley Williamson

Member open time

Greg tells us about hoping to form a group of people interested in food co-ops, information exchanges with groups hoping to create them, etc - event tentatively planned for February

Agenda Review

Sarah - Farmstand electronics system discussion

Annelies - UT microfarm wants to join co-op, how do

Consent agenda - nothing

Fundraising committee/hiring a managing director

membership is changing, need a new chair (Haley/Jen?)

did not get food lab grant

still waiting to hear from austin food and wine alliance

hot tip USDA world dev grant discussions happening

Vacant Board Seat

Jared Dillard stepped down

Jen Mack is interested in joining the board, has been one of the farmstand directors/supervisors was involved in landscaping, worked at Rain Lily farm and farmhouse delivery, frequents farmers' markets

Christa motions to have Jen Mack fill board vacancy, Sarah seconds, 4-0-0

Member engagement

founding day party was successful, moving to events once a quarter or twice a year

Ends Policies Discussion

Lesley has started putting together a poll to send to members, want to include ends options and other questions to members from board

Catch Jen up on what Ends are and how we create them
deadline for poll - have it ready to send to members Dec. 1st

C.5 Code of Conduct Policy Revision

changes presented, Haley motions to accept changes to policy C.5, Annelies seconded, 4-0-1

Policy Monitoring C.6 - Annelies

change 3.c.i to being just under 3.c

Christa motions to accept C.6 policy monitoring, seconded by Sarah, 4-0-1

Haley motions to accept changes to policy C.6, seconded by Sarah, 5-0-0

discussion of internal sessions/confidentiality

board packets are not confidential

financial statements are confidential

might share profit and loss, budget, etc with general membership at certain times of the year but not preliminary budgets, loan specifics, or any personally identifying information

putting things in that are not truly confidential casts a shadow over things we do need to keep confidential, hard to find clear guidelines on what is and what isn't confidential

Annelies proposes making current and past statements public with personal information obfuscated, keeping projections and non-final budgets confidential

break called 7:18

return 7:31

Christa motions that we enter internal session, Annelies seconds, 5-0-0

internal session entered 7:31

B.2 Policy Monitoring by Lesley

if we accept the current projected budget, we will be out of compliance with B.1, which puts us out of compliance with B.2

reaching our goal of having 50 members would help us to be in compliance with the current budget, as would having more consistent sales from current members. Are we filling a real need vs providing a convenience? Seems to be the source of some of our inconsistencies, need to keep that as a frame of reference with new members and our expectations from them.

Need to make adjustments to current practices and create new practices

create line item for board budget with minimal amount

Exit internal session 7:55

Annelies motions to accept policy B.2 report as out of compliance, and to call for re-monitoring, seconded by Sarah, 4-0-1

Proposed commission changes

want to make the current member commission system more like the non-member commission we utilize with HOPE farmstand members

should it replace the current system or be in addition to it? is this a decision the board should make on its own? this changes what they signed up for via the member handbook. will include a question about it on the member survey (and the survey survey)

Electronics System at market

needs small tweaks

Loan extension proposal

Annelies presents proposed changes, can we use this \$ to pay a MD? what role do we want these loans to play in future budgets?

Annelies motions to offer loan extensions of 1 or 3 years to people with current loans to the co-op, seconded by Christa, 5-0-0

UT Microfarm/ how/if to allow groups to join the co-op

UT Microfarm has been a consistent seller at HOPE via the HOPE farmstand and are interested in joining as official members, have a single contact member who could be the single voter, Lesley and Annelies have visited and approve the farm practices

they have a larger labor pool and funding, otherwise they meet all the requirements we have for individual members. should they join? should there be special rules?

we will send them an invitation to apply for membership and review that at the next meeting

Calendar Review

Dec. 15 next board meeting @ Wheatsville @ 6:30

loads of follow up agenda items for next meeting, skip policy monitoring, keep MD monitoring

meeting adjourned 8:45

AI - Lesley send a survey survey to the board

AI - Haley send Oct. minutes to entire board

AI - Christa send out committee charters to board (esp Jen), send disclosure statement and code of conduct to Jen