

Minutes of Lakewinds Natural Foods Board of Directors Meeting October 26, 2009

Board President John DePaolis called the meeting to order at 6:04. In attendance were Doug Engen, Caroline Hermes, Fred Ladner, Jennifer Reilly, Katherine Roseth, Dale Woodbeck, Joe Wagner and GM Libby Trader.

Consent Agenda

There being no list of new members to approve Dale made a motion to approve September's minutes and the monthly General Manager's report. Jennifer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Libby said she would ask Kim to send the new Member list to the Board the next day for approval.

Strategic Planning Communication

John handed out a draft of the proposed message to Members regarding the Board's strategic plan which is to be included in the December/January newsletter. He asked that any changes/modifications be sent to him by email as soon as possible.

Board Capabilities Matrix

John reported that the matrix, which lists each Board Member's capabilities/skills, had been completed and that all of the listed skill sets have been covered.

Member Linkage Committee

John handed out a draft plan to strengthen the link between Members and the Board. In it he outlined some of what he considered to be the key issues and possible tactics to approach them. He asked Board Members to review the plan and get back to him with suggestions. There followed a short discussion regarding what kind of activities could be undertaken to further this goal. One idea discussed was for Board Members to volunteer to bag groceries at Minnetonka and Chanhassen on the busiest days or during Thanksgiving week. Joe said he was told that Tuesday is the busiest day at Minnetonka and would put in a couple of hours there this week. Libby said that bagging during Thanksgiving week would be a big help and added that those Board Members who wish to participate should contact her so that she can schedule for them.

Updated Board Manual Materials

Katherine distributed these to the Board.

Grant Program

Libby reviewed for the Board some of the grant programs undertaken by the coop. She noted that these were fairly small in terms of dollar amount which was most likely due to Lakewinds' financial problems of the past few years. Now that the coop is in better shape financially she would like to emulate the programs carried out by the Wedge. She then outlined the Wedge's annual procedure of asking the community to apply for grants (using a standard form); vetting the requests by a committee of Board Members, Members at large and selected employees; and then putting the selected grants (10 to 15 usually) on the annual Board Member ballot for Members to vote for three. The selected

grants would be funded up to \$75,000. There was a discussion about how to screen for applicants and what procedures the coop will have to put in place. Libby said she believes there are first some legal requirements that need to be addressed and asked if any Board Members had any contacts they could ask for direction on how to proceed. John, Doug and Dale said they would ask acquaintances that had had experience in setting up foundations and get back to her before the next meeting.

Strategic Plan Tracking

Libby handed out a summary of the coop's strategic plan which had been created at a 2-day offsite meeting of the Board last February. The various strategies were listed along with the employee responsible for implementation and a time frame for accomplishment over the next three years. For the new store strategy, scheduled to open in 2012, she said that she has contacted to firms that do market studies for potential site location. There followed a discussion regarding that process and potential sites. The discussion centered on sites in either Plymouth or Maple Grove. It was decided to proceed to hire one of the firms to begin the preliminary study immediately.

Miscellaneous

Libby said that she needs authority from the Board to pay \$10,427 for a new sign which will be erected in the Minnetonka parking lot. Her current authority is capped at \$10,000. John made a motion to grant Libby that authority which was seconded by Fred and passed unanimously.

There was a short discussion about whether to replace Sheri Kirkman who resigned from the Board last week. It was decided to leave the Board at 8 for now.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20.