



Mariposa Food Co-op

BOARD MEETING 04.05

05 April 2021 / 6:30 PM / ZOOM

ATTENDEES

Board Members: Tiernan Alexander (Convener), Lorelle Becton, Tim Crouch (Vice-Convener), Vera Foronda, Nailah Frye (Staff Representative), LaToya Johnson (Secretary), Rachel Reed, Rodney Sheppard (Treasurer), Aaron Spence, and Meaghan Washington

Staff: Aj Hess (General Manager/GM), Majal Logan (Admin Assistant)

Guests: N/A

Absent: Vera Foronda and Dondi Henderson

AGENDA

New Business

- Welcome incoming board members + discussion of transition and elections for officer positions
- Feedback from Annual Member Meeting
- Reflections from last Ends Statement visioning session, and forward look
- Board Self-Monitoring - re-familiarizing ourselves with C and D ahead of revised self-monitoring process starting from June 2021
- Board and Management Statement circulated by Meaghan
- AOB

NOTES

- **The meeting began with a reading of the norms.**
- **The March meeting minutes were approved.**

- **Welcome incoming board members + discussion of transition and elections for officer positions:**

- The Vice Convener suggested a recap on the sequence of events be provided for the next couple of months, along with a sharing of ideas from experienced board members and a discussion about changing the timing of the vote for bylaws. There was also mention of new member orientation, so that board members could share thoughts prior to the seating of new board members in June.

- The GM shared that typical bylaw changes happen on the ballot with the annual election, in order to prevent multiple ballots, while urgent changes take 45 days.
- AS gave recommendations for what would be helpful as a new board member, which includes the questions of what went well and what did not go so well. AS also inquired about the cadence of the board meetings and asked about the roles. For example, who all are in those roles and how long are the terms? AS then asked about the initiatives that were worked on and their progressions, as well as blocks and hurdles.

- The Convener responded that the biggest hurdle was being an entirely new board and having to pick up on learning how policy governance works.
 - HF shared that Cooperative Board Leadership 101 is included in CBLD and is very helpful:
https://columinate.coop/upcoming_events/virtual-cbl-101/
- The Treasurer suggested reviewing previous videos of the meetings and the minutes, as well as the manual ([Policy Register](#)).

- **Feedback from Annual Member Meeting**

- Brief mention of the feedback was given.

- **Board Self-Monitoring - re-familiarizing ourselves with C and D ahead of revised**

- The Admin. gave a brief update on the revisions for the Board Self-Monitoring template.
- The Convener requested that the Board Self-Monitoring report be ready by May, as the board has met for a year.
 - The Vice Convener agreed and requested the report be sent out prior to the next meeting with an action to have the global sections completed.

The new board could then get in the more regular rhythm of completing the sections in full.

- Aj suggested that starting with a slower introduction to the shorter global policies that also line up with Aj's global policies in June might be more helpful. So, Board Self Monitoring C + D Global is to be prepared to run in June and sent out by the Convener.

- **Board and Management Statement circulated by Meaghan:**

<https://www.instagram.com/mariposacoop/?hl=en>

- A formal apology was made by MW for the delay in posting the response. The Treasurer, however, noted that any of the board members could have initiated the response.
- LB noticed that a letter of critique responding to the statement was that it lacked actionable steps.
- NF questioned how leadership within the co-op functions, in terms of messaging as a board. Subcommittees, like FJAR, were also brought up to help address things affecting the community and co-op. The requested actions from the letter were highlighted as well.
- The Convener questioned the time to step up and write about ongoing. A suggestion was also made to have a role or groups that can support the community.
- The Treasurer brought up the purpose of concretizing the ends statements to also direct the actions to take. The initiation of responses by the media was brought up as well. The maintenance of attention was then suggested so that when a concern is brought to the board, a collective decision can be made.
- RR questioned whether people feel that they are able to express concerns.
- HF shared that Columinate has designated the GM to promote the organization's values in the community as well as protect the organization's reputation. The GM also cooperates with Outreach in doing this.
- LB asked to keep the goal of dismantling white supremacy in mind, which can help level the argument of which groups get more attention. A continued focus on the history of the country helps with addressing oppressed groups as well.
- The GM and MW are to meet about the internal processing of statements.
- The Vice Convener asked if there is anything the board wants to say collectively in response to the letter written about the statement.

- The GM suggested responding in a genuine and honest way by expressing appreciation for the sharing of concerns. The response could also include a note that the board will follow-up after reflecting on the suggestions.
- The Convener and Vice Convener are to draft and send the response within the next 24 hours.
- The Vice Convener suggested a follow-up on the actionable items after the letter is reviewed in more depth.
- The meeting ended and was followed by a CBLD training.