



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2021 • 6 – 8pm

Zoom Call

Present at meeting:

Board Members: Roger (President), Kirsten Lindquist (Treasurer), Pamela Lee (Secretary), Thomas Wehland, Humnath Punta, Laura Jones, Alexandra Profant

Absent Board Members:

Co-op Employees: Jason Davenport, Kiya Villarreal, Bob Brown, Emi Lee

Member-owners: Kathleen Pelly, Diane Sharples, Corinne Frugoni, Patty Harvey, Cheryl Kelly

1. **Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 by Roger and introductions were made.

2. **Agenda Review and Approval**

Agenda approved by consensus.

3. **Welcome New Board Members**

New board members (Alexandra, Humnath and Laura) were introduced and welcomed. The board had a board orientation directly prior to this board meeting.

4. **Select Officers and Committee Chairs**

The board discussed and came to consensus on the following:

- President – Roger
- Vice President – Pamela
- Treasure – Kirsten
- Secretary/Policies & Procedures Cmt. Chair – Humnath
- Nominating Cmt. Chair – Thomas
- Earth Action Cmt. Chair – Alexandra

5. **Approve October 7, 2021, Board Minutes**

Motion: Approve the October 7, 2021, board minutes as corrected (update to agenda #8).
Approved by consensus.

6. **Member Comment Period**

- Bob – I believe the floor needs to be replaced with flooring that is less hard and would reduce back pain for those who are standing on it for a long amount of time while working.
 - o Emi – this has been discussed at the last two board meetings. Staff have looked into the type of flooring that Bob is interested in. We found that it's not conducive to a grocery store with grocery carts and other heavy equipment that is used on the floors. The tile on the first floor in Arcata will be removed, and the concrete beneath will be polished. We did order anti-fatigue mats to add into certain areas of the floor to help. We will continue to look for ways to relieve fatigue.

7. **Board Correspondence**

- Received a few comments about a long-time worker that was laid off. The board is not in the position to negotiate or intervene on this, but we are paying attention.
- A member wants a plastic free section in the store. An area with products for sale that arrive to the store with no plastic and incorporate no plastic.

- 8. Health Care for All** – reported by Corrine & Patty (Co-chairs of Humboldt Chapter of Health Care for All)
We believe that healthcare is a right and should have equal access to publicly provided healthcare. We are requesting the Co-op sign on to a letter to Assemblymember Jim Wood to support AB 1400 which will be reintroduced in the Assembly this January. There are over 40 organizations that have already signed on to this letter. This bill will guarantee single-payer healthcare for all citizens of California. Single-payer healthcare should improve healthcare options in our rural area. We are asking the Co-op to sign this letter because it would be in the best interest of the Co-op, as single-payer healthcare would greatly reduce healthcare costs to the Co-op which currently uses a financially risky self-insured healthcare for their employees.

The board and staff discussed the benefits of signing this letter. There is a history of the Co-op signing on to similar letters, with the intention of influencing policy that would directly benefit the Co-op and community.

Motion: Add the Co-ops name to the letter to Jim Wood in support of AB 1400.
Motion by Pamela, 2nd from Kirsten, motion passes (5/0/2). Laura and Alexandra abstain.

- 9. Plastic Ban Petition** – reported by Cheryl Kelly
This petition is an endorsement for a ballot initiative that will come to the voters of CA in November 2022. There are naysayers that believe grocery stores will not like this bill, but I believe stores like the Co-op are in fact interested in reducing plastic packaging.
- Roger – I propose the board review this initiative and take action at the December board meeting.
 - Kathleen – approves the great work the Co-op is doing to reduce plastics in the stores.
- 10. GM Report** – reported by Jason
- P6 financials aren't quite yet ready due to extensive inventory review. Revenue continues to be good in both stores and days of cash remain strong.
 - We had a successful pumpkin patch with great staff support from Jolie, Mara and Sallie. It's a very valuable community engagement project, where we get children out to a local farm.
 - The Arcata Store is currently being painted and we'll have a new Co-op sign up on the roof soon.
 - Maintaining staffing has been a challenge, which is a common for many businesses right now.
 - We are working on projects to highlight local products.
 - We recently had an audit for the Prepared Foods Department from an NCG representative. We received excellent feedback and ideas of what we might want to try to implement.
 - Paperwork and logistical pieces are coming together to finalize a loan with Redwood Capital Bank for our renovation plans.
- 11. Member Comment**
- Thomas – congratulations and welcome to all the new board members.
 - o Kirsten – I second that. And welcome Pamela back for a 3-year term on the board.
 - o Alexandra – Agree and I hope we meet in person soon.

12. New Business (items for next agenda):

- Plastic Ban Petition

Consensus reached to adjourn the November 4, 2021, meeting at 7:55pm and move into Executive Session.

Minutes by Emily Walter via audio recording of the meeting.

**North Coast Co-op
Board of Directors Executive Session Minutes
November 4, 2021**

Present at meeting:

Board Members: Roger (President), Kirsten Lindquist (Treasurer), Pamela Lee (Secretary), Thomas Wehland, Laura Jones, Alexandra Profant

Absent Board Members: Humnath Punta

Co-op Employees: Jason Davenport

No reportable action taken.

Executive session ended at 8:34 p.m.

Reported by Pamela Lee