



## February Board Mtg. Recap

— by James Kloor, Board President & Treasurer

On Thursday, February 6, the Board of Directors met to receive feedback from our members, gather insight into what's been happening at the Co-op and to continue looking towards what's coming next.

We had a pretty good turnout of members at the meeting. I love when we see folks in the room to give us their thoughts, feeling and concerns. Multiple folks brought up the new City of Arcata Ordinance banning the sale of Disposable Food Containers. Our Co-op is responding in numerous ways, spearheaded by Kiya Villarreal, our Sustainability Officer, and Sean Nolan, our General Manager. Kiya is overseeing the transition from traditional plastic produce and bulk bags to compostable alternatives. We'll also start offering compostable alternatives for flatware as well. To accompany this effort, we will be carrying a greater selection of durables which will be merchandised alongside single-use items. Both the Arcata store and the Eureka store will see these changes (even though Eureka has no such ordinance yet). I'm stoked to see the Co-op taking a leadership role and getting ahead of the ordinance on these things—I would expect no less from our Co-op.

On the Financial Side of things – Period 7 showed a net income of about \$20,500. Bringing our year to date numbers to about \$76,441. These numbers are pretty old at this point, but they show that even before going into the busy holiday season we are doing well to manage expenses to retain a positive net income.

Sean Nolan shared some new ideas for making our membership discount more meaningful, from additional Member Only sales, to switching up the way the monthly discount works (don't worry—it's not going away). Instead of 5% per month, we're considering the idea of changing it to 15% per quarter. Members can come in and do a big shop and save a considerable amount. I personally don't "plan" when to use my member discount—if I splurged on a couple items and get to the register, I'll use it. But with a 15% discount, I imagine I'd do a bit more planning. Sean will be coming to the Board with a written proposal to adopt the change to the member discount, as well as some other additional member benefits. The next Board meeting is March 5.

Other exciting news in the works is a plan to provide more outdoor seating at the Arcata Co-op. We're planning to add some outdoor tables and chairs, near where the plants / large columns are. Don't worry, we'll continue selling plants, and will be moving things around a bit to best utilize space. More seating in Arcata is something the Board has been excited about for a while – and it's great to hear it will be happening soon!

Upcoming meetings – The Finance Committee meets Thursday, February 27 at the Eureka Chamber of Commerce from 6 – 8 pm. The next board meeting is Thursday, March 5, 6-8pm at the Jefferson Community Center in Eureka. I'm hoping to have David Cobb of Cooperation Humboldt come and give a talk on Public Banks, and to reintroduce the concept of general education topics at Board meetings. If that suits your fancy – I hope to see you there. Be sure to check the Co-op calendar ([www.northcoast.coop/calendar/](http://www.northcoast.coop/calendar/)) to see agenda's, meeting time, location and additional details.