



## Member Action Committee (MAC)

Minutes – August 14, 2019

Arcata Co-op Conference Room (upstairs), Arcata

**Board Members:** Cheri Strong, Colin Fiske

**Member-Employees:** Emily Walter, Laurie Talbert, Margaret Sataua, Joel Bradfield, Kiya Villarreal  
**Members:**

1. **Welcome** - 5:34pm Laurie welcomed everyone.

2. **Approve Minutes** - Consensus to approve the June 2019 meeting minutes.

### 3. Member Comments

- There is a Palm Done Right marketing campaign but is it really ensuring sustainable and cruelty free palm oil? Members want more information.
- There is currently a boycott to stop buying The Wonderful Company products until they pressure California legislators to ban the practice of using oil wastewater on crops.
  - o The food industry is getting away with using oil wastewater to irrigate crops, including organic produce. Water samples have determined that the wastewater contains toxic chemicals, some that are linked to cancer. Food corporations like The Wonderful Company are exploiting their customers and the farmworkers who grow their food by profiting off of putting our health at risk. Known for nationally sold brands like POM Wonderful, Wonderful Pistachios and Halos mandarins, Wonderful has the political influence to stop this practice.

ACTION: Laurie will find out what products we carry from the Wonderful Company

- We should announce a list of things members have gotten implemented at the Annual Membership Meeting (AMM) as a way to encourage members to be engaged with the Co-op.

ACTION: Margaret will work on list of member ideas that have been implemented at the Co-op.

- The City of Eureka is updating their housing element. We should promote cooperative housing in the plan.

### 4. Co-op News Member Surveys

The group brainstormed member survey questions and came up with the following for Co-op News:

*Have you changed your shopping habits around food ingredients based on that ingredients social and or environmental impacts?  
If yes, which ingredients and why?*

### 5. Member Engagement Plan

Discussed creating a member engagement plan.

- What does engagement mean to members?
- Have a questionnaire for members to fill out at AMM.
- Ask other co-ops for their member engagement plans.
- We need a project that members can work on together.
  - o Member cookbook – member committee solicits recipes.
  - o Member artwork around the buildings
  - o Member help with strategic plan projects

## **6. Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- The Wonderful Company (POM products etc.)
- Possibility of local non-organic produce sold in stores
- Update on Palm Done Right marketing campaign
- Stop purchasing from Amazon
- Member Engagement Plan update

## **7. Roles & Responsibilities**

- Margaret will facilitate the next MAC meeting.

### Next MAC meeting:

September 11, 5:30-6:30pm at the Arcata store.

*Minutes by Emily Walter*