



May Policies & Procedures Committee (PPC) Meeting Recap

— submitted by Colin Fiske

The Policies and Procedures Committee met Wednesday, May 15 in the Arcata Conference Room.

Board Member Attendance at Meetings

Our current Bylaws allow a Board member to be removed for missing three consecutive Board meetings. In order to ensure that Board members are living up to their responsibilities and pulling their weight, the PPC is proposing to also allow Board members to be removed for missing five or more meetings in any 12-month period, whether they are consecutive or not. Specifically, the PPC is recommending that the Board consult with its attorney to ensure there are no problems with this proposed change to the Bylaws, and then consider adopting it. Because of state law, even if adopted, the change would apply to Board members elected in the future, and not current Board members.

Purchasing & Merchandising Policies

The Board adopted the Co-op's first comprehensive Purchasing and Merchandising Policies a couple of years ago. These policies state that the Co-op "strives to sell" products with positive social and environmental impacts from local vendors that meet member needs, and "strives not to sell" products with negative social and environmental impacts. It has recently been brought to the Board's attention that the wording of the policy unintentionally omits operational supplies. The PPC is proposing that the Board adopt edits to the policy to replace the word "sell" in the above phrases with the words "purchase and sell."

The recently adopted Five-Year Strategic Plan calls for the Co-op to create a system for evaluating products against the purchasing policy in Fiscal Year 2021, and to increase the percentage of products that are consistent with the policy thereafter. The PPC's proposed change would slightly increase the number of products that will be considered in this process, but other than that will not have any immediate impact on staff.

The next PPC meeting is Wednesday, July 17, 6-8pm at the Arcata Co-op. Members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Colin Fiske
Board President
North Coast Co-op