



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2026 • 6pm

Arcata Co-op & Zoom

Present at meeting:

Board Members: Elizabeth/Lizzy Gahm (Vice President/Employee Director), George WinterSun, Layla Richardson (President), Hayley Simera (Secretary), Mike Connors (Treasurer), Jon Haumeder

Absent Board Members:

Co-op Employees: Emily Walter, Sean Nolan, Kiya Villarreal

Owners: Joanne McGarry, Kathleen Pelly, Roger, Ellen Weiss, Shawn Leon, Tamar Krigel, Amanda Devons, Joanie Weiser, Gordon Inkeles, Susan Parsons, Gary Bloomfield, Nan Abrams, Iian Cohen, Sherri Starr, Ed Hirsch, Carilyn Goldammer, Geoffrey Robinson

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 by Layla and introductions were made.

2. Agenda Review

The agenda was reviewed.

3. Approve May 14, 2026, Board Minutes

Minutes approved by consensus as amended.

4. Board Correspondence – Reported by Layla

We responded to an owner that was remarking about the condition of the parking lot in Arcata being rough. We let them know we are aware of improvements we would like to make and encouraged them to ask employees for assistance getting their purchases to their vehicle.

5. Tabling Policy – Reported by Layla

This is a 20-minute agenda item and we are opening comments to those in attendance for 2 minutes each. This time is for input on what you want the tabling policy to be. The current policy allows tabling for groups that we partner with through our various giving programs, like CCF, Seeds for Change, board and staff. The previous policy basically allowed anyone to table.

- Geoffry – We need to consider the town hall aspect of this space. It's a cultural center from which culture changes in our community. The new policy is more exclusive. The Co-op would do well to have a philosophical basis for the tabling policy to encourage the health of the community and be more inclusive.
- Amanda – As a Co-op shopper there are volatile issues that can attack me as person that I can't be in that space. It's an attack of my ethnicity and family. It can cause emotional distress. There can be escalation and raised voices that are genocidal to people. I don't want that to happen anywhere. I get extremely upset as a Co-op member.
- Roger – Coos Bay Co-op and Ukiah Co-op deal with the ups and downs of tabling and ask people to leave if tabling becomes inappropriate. Ashland and Davis Co-ops have strict

policies that tabling must be local nonprofits tabling about food, grassroots efforts, farming and food education and nothing political. I want everyone to feel comfortable coming into the store.

- Carilyn – I’m part of Women’s Information League for Peace and Freedom. We’ve been tabling at the Co-op for many years and sell raffle tickets to support peace and freedom. I’m hoping we can be grand mothered in. I don’t think there is any space for aggressive tablers. I think there can be screening for those that want to table.
- Shawn – I’ve tabled with Redwood Peace and Justic Coalition, raising funds for people in Gaza city to resist the ongoing genocide. The tabling policy was changed because of our tabling and being bullied. The policy should go back to the way it was and there should be a clear statement as to why the policy was changed.
- Ellen – The Co-op is a great place to table. This is a time we need to step forward and help each other and this change in the policy is moving away from this. Freedom of speech is being eroded. I think having clear rules for tablers is what is needed to have more inclusivity. I put my money into the Co-op because it’s more than a grocery store.
- Joanne – The previous minutes stated that the Co-op is historically a place where free speech is not stifled. I’ve had great conversations with students selling baked goods and like having those interactions. The County Human Rights commission could be approached for ideas of how the Co-op could help the community and not stifle free speech.
- Gordon – I agree that the Co-op should focus on being a food store. I’m Jewish and I have been abused repeatedly going in and out of the Co-op. It’s not appropriate and needs to stop. I don’t swallow rationalization for hate speech. Do your job as food store. Abusing Jewish patrons is not part of being a food store.
- Tamar – I’ve shopped here for a long time. This is a controversial issue that the Co-op should stay away from. Right now, is a very heated time and when I go shopping for food I don’t want to feel like I’m being challenged. I want peace of mind when shopping and not be intimidated. I don’t want to see kufiyah being sold in front of the Co-op.
- Sherri – I want our Co-op tabling policy to be consistent with other Co-ops. We’ve heard hate speech tonight in this meeting. I’d like to have policies similar to other co-ops.
- Ed – I’m either a Jew, Zionist or I’m a colonizer and genocider. That’s unacceptable to me. I don’t understand the talk of restricting free speech. The Co-op is not a government organization. Free speech means that the government cannot restrict free speech. Being called names walking into the Co-op is unacceptable to me.

6. Owner Comment Period

- Roger – The Co-op used to make whole wheat bread. They now label their bread as whole wheat, but it is not whole wheat. The Federal Law states that whole wheat bread must be 100% whole wheat. I think our newsletter should invite owners to send comments for the newsletter. I’d like to see the newsletter used to engage owners.
- Joanne – There are cement things right in front of the bike parking that are a tripping hazard. Let’s experiment with a bigger area for bike parking. The Co-op business cards and some signs have small print and too light of color, making them difficult to read. Please make them bigger and bolder. I don’t think you should discriminate against people who don’t adapt to technology. Inclusiveness in this institution is important.

- Ellen – I’m Jewish and I’m against antisemitism. I’ve looked into the Redwood Peace and Justic Coalition, and I believe all of their money goes to food and water for people who don’t have it.
- Tamar – This is not happening at other stores. This is a heated topic. Why amplify this hostility at the Co-op? There is much stress in our lives right now and we don’t need it at the Co-op. Free speech can happen at the courthouse.
- Shawn – Redwood Peace & Justice have not been inappropriate while tabling. We are a humanitarian organization. We are out there raising money for people in Gaza. The Co-op is a great space. I’ve been harassed when I’m tabling. I’m not the aggressor.

Due to disorder in the meeting the meeting was ended and moved to Executive Session.

~~7. Elections Committee~~

~~8. Consumer Cooperative Management Association (CCMA) Report~~

~~9. GM Report~~

10. New Business (items for next agenda):

Next Board Meeting is Thursday, July 9 at 6pm

Consensus reached to adjourn June 11, 2026, meeting at 7:10pm and move into Executive Session.

Minutes by Emily Walter

**North Coast Co-op
Board of Directors Executive Session Minutes
June 11, 2026**

Present at meeting:

Board Members: Elizabeth/Lizzy Gahm (Vice President/Employee Director), George WinterSun, Layla Richardson (President), Hayley Simera (Secretary), Mike Connors (Treasurer), Jon Haumeder

Absent Board Members:

Co-op Employees: Sean Nolan

No reportable action.

Executive Session ended at 8:45pm.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2026 • 6:30pm

Zoom

Present at meeting:

Board Members: Elizabeth/Lizzy Gahm (Vice President/Employee Director), George WinterSun, Layla Richardson (President), Hayley Simera (Secretary), Mike Connors (Treasurer), Jon Haumeder

Absent Board Members:

Co-op Employees: Emily Walter

Owners: Kathleen Pelly

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Layla and introductions were made.

2. Agenda Review

The agenda was reviewed.

3. Elections Committee – reported by Jon

The committee met earlier this week. We created a script for interviewing applicants. We're doing an employee election kick-off party at both stores on June 30. There will be food and applications available.

ACTION: Jon will send out a board tabling scheduling email.

Motion: Approve update to Section K of the Board Policy Manual.

“Applicant has the ability to **and willingness** to regularly read and respond to email correspondence. **An official Co-op email address is provided to all Board Directors.**”

Motion by Hayley, 2nd from Lizzy, motion approved (6/0/0).

Motion: Approve use of board legal funds in seeking advice from an attorney about a self-nomination policy.

Motion by Mike, 2nd from Jon, motion approved (6/0/0).

Motion: Approve changes to Board Policy Manual Section G as seen in Attachment A as amended. (Amendment – add and”/or” to first bullet point)

Motion by Hayley, 2nd from George, motion approved (6/0/0).

4. New Business (items for next agenda):

Next Board Meeting is Thursday, July 9 at 6pm

Consensus reached to adjourn June 18, 2026, meeting at 6:55pm and move into Executive Session.

Minutes by Emily Walter



**North Coast Co-op
Board of Directors Executive Session Minutes
June 18, 2026**

Present at meeting:

Board Members: Elizabeth/Lizzy Gahm (Vice President/Employee Director), George WinterSun, Layla Richardson (President), Hayley Simera (Secretary), Mike Connors (Treasurer), Jon Haumeder

Absent Board Members:

Co-op Employees: Sean Nolan

No reportable action.

Executive Session ended at 8:20pm.

Attachment A

Board Policy Manual Section G

General Membership Voting

- Adequate supply of ballots/~~envelopes~~ with ballot box, and/or a digital device for online voting, must be placed prominently in each store, for the duration of the election period.

General Election Results

- EC Chair shall ensure within ~~five (5)~~ seven (7) days of election closing, the candidates elected and/or referendum results, including specific vote counts per candidate or other ballot item, are announced and posted in all Co-ops stores and on Co-op website.
- EC Chair shall deliver to Board President, within ~~five (5)~~ seven (7) days after election close, a written report of election results, including vote totals, signed by all EC members participating in the vote count.

General Election Publicity

- ~~A list of applicant names, by date received, will be posted in stores on the Board board, and updated as applications are received. The post will include a caveat of when applicants will be reviewed and information of how to run for the board.~~

(Approved – April 2019)