

Minutes
Fiddleheads Natural Food Co-op Board of Directors
CCi Inc., 190 Broad St. New London
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., March 3, 2009

Call to order at 7:00

Directors Present: Ed DeMuzzio - Vice President, Sheila Herbert, David Jensen - Treasurer, Allen Longendyke - Secretary, Richard Spindler-Virgin - President, Jim Stidfole

Coop Members Present - Lorain Simister, Betty Stecher

Jim motioned that the 1/27/09 minutes be accepted and Ed seconded. Jim motioned that the 2/17/09 minutes be accepted and Dave seconded. Both motions passed with one abstention on the 2/17 minutes.

Member Comments:

Lorain asked the Board to consider two events, first a closed recording session held in the store with area bands which would be divided into two CD's, one for sale with profits to go to Fiddleheads and the second to be sold for a different charity. The second event was a Fashion Show and Concert. After some discussion the Board asked Lorain to provide a written proposal for each event that included detail about how all aspects of the event were to be completed including costs and who would be responsible for each detail.

Betty mentioned Fiddleheads tabling at the Stonington Greenfair on 3/22. Lorain said she would table with Betty at that event.

President's Report - Dick reported that Ledge Light Health District is requiring new certifications of us for further Pan Cake Breakfasts as we have grown. With this in mind we need to cancel the March Pan Cake Breakfast. In April the Rotary has asked that we help them host a charity Pan Cake Breakfast for "Ciambuja" (sp?) an African relief charity. There would be another Pan Cake Breakfast at Conn. College for the same cause, same date & time. Rotary involvement would give some good advertising and draw in people who may not be familiar with Fiddleheads. The Board was in agreement with this request. With regard to our being approved to accept Food Stamps there was a USDA inspector in the store this week, so that process is moving forward. We have not heard anything from the State regarding WIC.

Secretary's Report: As of 2/17 we have 890+ member households.

Business (Mixed Old and New):

Credit/Debit Card Acceptance - Ed reported that the phone line and credit card set-up will be ready by this coming Thursday at the latest.

Store Updates - We now carry frozen Seafood from Grossmans. Sheila is working on getting in Tree of Life (distributor) and still working on Goya. Allen is working on Maple Lane Farms (Black Current Juice) and Fortuna's. We have have a offer from Stonyledge Farm regarding our selling their ham and pork products.

Business Partnership - Allen revisited the idea of having Managetout come in on our orders. The Board felt that unless that business became a member and paid the same pre-order rate as members it was a no-go.

Open Tuesday? - Allen brought up the idea of expanding our hours to Tuesday. The Board felt there were not enough Market Masters and weekday volunteers to accomplish this. Dick mention that by July we would need to be open Tuesday as the New London Farmer's Market has agreed to relocate to our parking lot for the market season and will be present on Tuesday.

Programs? - Allen stated we have seen nothing from the programs coordinator. It was noted this person has not responded to emails, so the role of program coordinator is once again open for any interested party.

Sailfest Farmers Market - Jim asked that Fiddleheads hold a Farmer's Market in the Hygienic Art Park on Sailfest Sunday. Sheila stated she would speak to our vendors about this.

Time Line for Cooperative Fund of New England - Dick mentioned he would keep the Board apprised of what steps need to be taken under the guidelines the Cooperative Fund set as they now appear to see Fiddleheads as loan worthy again. These steps would include starting a GM search. He noted it will be tough financial sledding for the next few months until such a loan comes through.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

\$16,736. Publication of this information in the Newsletter was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.