

Minutes
Fiddleheads Natural Food Co-op Board of Directors
CCi Inc., 190 Broad St. New London
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., April 21, 2009

Call to order at 7:00

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

Coop Members Present - None besides the Board.

Minutes of the April 7 meeting were not prepared yet.

President's Report - The walk in cooler in the store is on and working. It seems to be drying out from the original dampness at start up. The coils are in dire need of cleaning. When the cleaning is arranged the cooler will have to be emptied out first as water/cleaner can run/drip down into the cooler during cleaning. The cleaning will greatly improve the functioning of the cooler. The set up of the donated walk in cooler is being discussed with a contractor and a decision needs to be made as to where it will be set up. Due to the apparent lack of a manufacturers label on it, it would not be easy to find a floor gasket for it so it will need to be caulked to the floor. (In discussion pursuant to this - the Board decided it should go near the open front cooler across from the rest rooms.)

Secretary's Report: As of 4/22 we have 900 member households.

Treasurer's Report: David may step down as Treasurer but agrees to stay on until the May Board elections are complete.

Old Business:

Art Gallery - The Board reviewed the proposal submitted by John Sargent and agreed with the concept and fees structure. If art in the initial showing is sold, Fiddleheads will take 15% of the sale price with the rest going to the artist. In shows after John and Guno's initial show, Fiddleheads will receive 20%. Dick will explain to John that for now the art can be displayed on the back shelf wall but that could be subject to change with the installation of the walk-in cooler.

Dick suggested and the Board agreed that if the Fashion Show/Concert proposed and promoted by and shortly thereafter cancelled by Lorain comes up again in the future, that it be treated as a brand new proposal.

New Business:

Inclusion of Thames River Member - Ellen Anthony made a motion that the Board vote to accept Ellen Lazerow as a member of Fiddleheads to be included with the prior ten memberships that came from the Thames River (buying) Coop. Jim seconded the motion. The motion voted on was "We move that Ellen Lazerow be retroactively included in the Thames River Coop purchase of membership in Fiddleheads." The motion passed unanimously.

Grant Proposal - Ed stated that we needed to have a formal vote to approve application to the Cooperative Fund of New England for the grant that he and Dick have been working on. Allen moved that "We authorize and approve application to the Cooperative Fund of New England for a \$400,000 grant." Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership Campaign - Dick stated that in working the store cash register this Saturday he observed that around 80% of purchases were made by non-members. Folks from the neighborhood around Fiddleheads are also starting to use the store a little more. He suggested we allow and encourage people to join with an initial payment of 10 or 25 dollars so they can get discounts. He also developed a form to track partial payments on memberships. The Board felt this is a good idea and agreed with it.

Store Business - Sheila brought up that we need more produce worker volunteers as Fred is moving to the West Coast and Tim, if he accepts becoming the new Produce Coordinator, does not have the time to devote to produce that Fred did. Something to this effect may be put into the E-Blast. Ed mentioned that there is a new E-Blast web address eblasts@gocci.com where information to be included in the eblasts may be sent.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

