

Minutes
Fiddleheads Natural Food Co-op Board of Directors
CCi Inc., 190 Broad St. New London
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., May 5, 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

Coop Members Present - Mariette Brown

A motion was made by Ellen and seconded by David to approve the Minutes of the April 7th and April 21st meetings. All voted in favor except Sheila who abstained because she had not read them yet.

Fiddleheads Member Mariette Brown spoke on a proposal to set up a book corner or nook in the store for purchase of relevant books as well as a reading area, and store in-house library. She would start the space with E.F. Schumacher pamphlets which are of no cost to display but whose sales go to Schumacher. There was discussion on where to locate this, and what to carry. The general consensus of the Board was to begin with the Schumacher series and possibly building a reference library for in-store use. Mariette would take care of getting the Schumacher series.

President's Report - The coils have been cleaned on the walk-in cooler. There was discussion as to whether or not to replace the saggy part of the cooler floor or cover it with another layer of plywood. Dick also noted that the cooler needs a new liner, and that one can see out into the store from an area in the top of the cooler. No firm decision was reached, as more consultation needed to occur.

Secretary's Report: As of 5/5 we have 911 member households.

Treasurer's Report: David noted continued revenue growth in the month of April with a record \$24,000 in sales. The Board discussed why we are doing well in the face of a weak economy, one is that we are now advertising regularly in the day, a second is that we are now able to take credit, debit, and EBT cards, and another is that people may be preparing more of their own food and eating out less. Fiddleheads' Members account for about 50% of the sales.

Old Business:

Reach-In Cooler construction - Arc-Tec Service has submitted a proposal to do this work. The other firm contacted has not submitted anything yet. We agree we do need this cooler as there is not enough refrigerated shelf space in the store. Ed and Dick are also looking into getting the walk-in freezer running.

Ed stated he spoke with Mary Hoyer of the Cooperative Fund of New England, who apologized, saying CFNE sent us the wrong list of what we needed to submit for the loan. Ed is working on providing the additional documentation to them.

Dinner-on-the-Farm - Hunts Brook will not host this year. We are currently looking for another location and an August date for the event.

Store Business - We are still looking for a produce coordinator to replace Fred Ribner, and more store coordinators.

New Business:

Dick proposed having one day a week be a crafters day for the store. A coordinator would be needed for this.

Allen proposed allowing families on food stamps to purchase memberships at the rate of \$25.00 a year. After some discussion it was decided to manage special situations on a case-by-case basis rather than have a set policy.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

