

Minutes
Fiddleheads Natural Food Co-op Board of Directors
CCi Inc., 190 Broad St. New London
7:00 - 9:00 p.m., January 19, 2010

Call to order at 7:00

Directors Present: Richard Virgin - President, Ed DeMuzzio - Vice President/Treasurer, Allen Longendyke - Secretary, Sheila Herbert, Ellen Anthony, David Jensen, Ned Ruete, Jim Stidfole, Suzanne Cattanach.

Coop Members Present: Paul Jakoboski, Wendy Jakoboski, Theresa Bissett, Guy Hermann.

A motion was made by Jim and seconded by Sheila to approve the Minutes of the December 15, 2009 Approval of the minutes were unanimous.

Secretary's Report: "As of 1/19/10 we have at least 1052 member households. This includes both active and inactive members."

President's Report: Dick reported on his Kafkaesque adventures with the Secretary of State's Office in trying to get recognition for approval of the license to sell beer. This includes five back and forth mailings of forms as a result of their looking for more information or information already obtained. Once the request is approved by that office it goes back to the State Liquor Commission. There is no evidence whether the new Utility company is saving us money, the next electric bill should tell. The recent problem with the produce cooler turned out to be a broken wire. Finally a thank you note was sent to The Day business columnist Tony Cronin for his support of Fiddleheads.

Finance Report - Ed reported that when the inventory is complete we should have a more accurate picture of where we are at financially. The Savings Institute appears to be increasing the interest on our loan which may reopen the matter of whether to pay it off or not. Ed also stated that the bottom line with regard to revenue is that even though we are meeting monthly expenses (rent, utilities, vendors, suppliers) we have to have sales of \$2,000 a day in order to catch up on past due bills.

Old Business:

2nd Anniversary Celebration - Suzanne reported that the group Maggie's Guitar will play from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, and that the Conn College Accapella Singers will perform in the afternoon. Several local political figures will be in attendance.

Decision to Hire Plan B Development (Chuck Bomley & Co.). Ellen stated the proposal given by Plan B is piecemeal - the first two stages involve designing a floor plan for the store given the input of the Big Plan committee. It would include what renovations and equipment is needed and the related costs. This first stage would cost Fiddleheads \$3,000. Ellen noted that Plan B has designed the Northhampton MA River Valley Coop and several others. Sheila noted getting a plan and design in place is the cornerstone of a capital campaign, which would show members and the general public exactly what their donations and loans would be for. Wendy, Paul, Theresa, and Guy noted they attended the meeting to show support for hiring Plan B. Discussion followed among the Board where Dick and Ed stated that existing funds should not be used to hire Plan B. Ellen made a motion which stated "It is moved to hire Plan B Development to move forward on sections of their retail plans 2A and 2B as soon as funding is available." Sheila seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Sheila proposed hiring Waltham & Company Exterminators to service the store monthly as we are continuing to have mouse damage despite the sonic repellent devices. The salesperson for Waltham looked over the store and said there were at least three entry portals for mice right outside the store. She said Waltham's plan was to stop the mice before they got to the food, and do so in an efficient and non-toxic manner. The cost would be \$45.00 a month. The Board agreed to move forward with hiring Waltham and Ed stated he would arrange it since they also provide pest control for his buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

