

FIDDLEHEADS ANNUAL MEETING
Meeting of May 3, 2015 [Draft prepared May 4, 2015]

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mark Roberts (Board Vice President) called to order the annual meeting of the Fiddleheads Natural Food Cooperative, Inc. at 4:27 p.m. on May 3, 2015 at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 19 Jay Street, New London, CT.

II. MINUTES FROM PAST ANNUAL MEETING

Summary: The May 4, 2014 annual meeting minutes were distributed to the membership for review and discussion. There was no discussion.

Motion to accept the 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Ellen Clinesmity
Second: Ellen Anthony
Voice vote, all in favor.

III. BOARD UPDATE

Summary: Mark Roberts, Board Vice President, made comments on behalf of Board President Susan Zimmerman.

- Talked about the decision not to continue to pursue expansion at the Shaws Cover/Parcel J site.
- Talked about success of expansion into additional space in current location.
- Unexpected departure of former General Manager. Current management team – Sheila Herbert and Kristin DeMuzzio – has stabilized operations.

Future goals for the Board include:

- Building board capacity through retreat and other activities, and soliciting more member involvement in board work
- Developing a strategic plan consistent with Ends Policies
- Succession planning for both management and board leadership
- Strengthen both co-op community and our involvement in local community

IV. MANAGERS' UPDATE

Summary: A two-page handout describes highlights from the past year.

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Oral report, presented by both co-managers and various staff members and accompanied by a slide show, highlighted:

- Number of different products carried, including many introduced in response to customer requests
- Partnerships with local agencies and organizations and contributions co-op has made to local community
- Member outreach including the Veggie Passport program for kids last summer
- Physical improvements to store included new lighting, new signage (using recycle materials and created by our own staff), a new produce cooler and a “coolbot” for bulk storage.
- Majority of meat and dairy items are locally or regionally sourced
- Prepared soup available daily in the café and regularly rotating grab-and-go items
- Island deliveries to Block Island and Fishers Island
- Radio advertising on local commercial radio – these spots are produced by members of Fiddlehead’s staff
- 30% increase in amount of local produce sold in 2014 as compared to 2013
- Planned introduction on-line ordering system with curbside delivery in late summer 2015

V. REPORTING RESULTS OF BOARD ELECTIONS

Summary: Ballots had been available in the store during the end of the past week, and were distributed to members as they arrived prior to the Annual Meeting for the community meal and Cooperative Café. Candidates’ biography/statements had been available both on-line and in the store since mid-April. Each of the candidates also spoke briefly prior to the Cooperative Café. The slate endorsed by the Board of Directors was elected as follows:

Sue Phillips: 1 year term
Carolyn Wilson: 2 year term
Helene Bardinet: 3 year term
Mark Patnode: 3 year term
Dan Spurr: 3 year term

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:56 p.m.

Motion: Suzanne Cattanach
Second: Helene Bardinet
All in favor.

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Draft minutes prepared for submission to the Board by Susan Phillips on May 4, 2015.

Minutes approved by vote of the Annual Meeting on _____ and put into final form by _____ on _____.