

**Natural Harvest Food Co-Op**  
August Meeting Held Tuesday, September 28, 2018  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Natural Harvest Classroom

Board Members Present: Megan Thiele, Darrel Swenson, Deb Meissner DeVries, Carrie Sells, Anne Lantry, Julie Juntune, Emma Peterson, Shayna Ray and Pauli Rancourt

Staff Members Present: Marketing Director Briana Sterle and Administrative Assistant Lori Maki

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**Call to Order** – Vice - President Swenson called the meeting to order at 5:27 PM

**New Business – Log Building** Darrel reported that all is well and that the closing will be on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018.

**A motion** was made by Deb to accept the August 28th **minutes**. Julie seconded, and the motion carried.

**A motion** to renew the CDS contract before Sept 30<sup>th</sup> to receive a discount was made by Julie, seconded by Shayna. The vote was unanimous. Carrie will follow through with Anja on the contract we had on hand, verifying that the discount is accounted for.

Carrie reported on the Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> **CBL 101** seminar. Anja, Carrie, Julie and Darrel attended. All who attended found it useful and stressed that it is beneficial for others to attend if they can when it is held again. Julie commented on the financial info she learned. She pointed out that was her most useful take from it and wished there had been even more.

**GM Reports** were presented by Briana. **Monthly Sales Charts** were reviewed which included a 3.56% growth over last August. Also, that our goal of 250 new owners in 2018 is nearly reached as of Aug 31<sup>st</sup>. 224 new owners have joined this year and there is an owner drive scheduled for the month of October.

**A motion** to accept B7- Communication to the Board as in compliance was made by Pauli and seconded by Carrie. The motion carried. Comments and feedback on a few issues will be brought to Anja's attention for action.

**Store Happenings Report** for last month was presented by Briana. Included was the Round-Up donation of \$1,318.95 to Habitat for Humanity and that 2 classes were held in August. Also reported is the use of the classroom eleven times by community groups. Event participation of Mesabi Trail Tour, Brewfest at Olcott Park, Art Crawl and Mesabi College Connection also occurred.

**A motion** to accept 22 new owners was made by Emma and seconded by Carrie. The motion carried. **A motion** was made to allow a refund to Marlyn Swanson of \$50 by Pauli, seconded by Anne and passed.

**Board Monitor Reports – C9 Board Member Succession** was discussed. Deb suggested that reviewing Bylaws and this report should be looked at further to clarify appointment and election of owners. She offered to do so before the next meeting. **The motion** to accept compliance with C9 was made by Pauli and seconded by Julie. The motion carried.

**Future events** were discussed by all including Customer Appreciation Day, Oct 27 and Halloween party, Oct 31<sup>st</sup>. Board Members were given a sign-up sheet for helping with both events. Briana will send specifics to all when we get closer to the events.

**Committee Reports - GM Evaluation**– Darrel reported that he had nothing to report this month.

Carrie reported for **The Education Committee**. There will be a meeting held after we adjourned today. Also, a Board Retreat is still in the works for November 18<sup>th</sup>. Details are being worked out and will be shared as they progress.

**The Perpetuation Committee** report was presented by Deb. A few changes in the application will be suggested and they are working on a matrix that reflects the current Board Members fields of experience. This will hopefully assist in targeting future Board Members with areas where the others may be lacking.

**A reminder was put out that next month officer elections will be held.**

**Treasurer Report** was presented by Megan. **A motion was made** by Deb and seconded by Julie to accept all committee reports to the Board. Motion carried. The 2019 Board Budget was discussed and will be presented for actual approval next month.

**Old Business - NHFC Goals/Long-term Planning/ Shared Vision** was discussed along with **Board Goals**. More work will be done on these areas at the Board Retreat. Also, an informal meeting was set up for Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> before the Board meeting to brainstorm some ideas. The actual meeting will start closer to 6.

Discussion of the idea of **solar panels** followed. Deb offered to entertain the idea of getting a community-based initiative going. Hoping to spike interest by others to collaborate with us and hopefully get a better deal. She will pursue some education of this as she is planning on attending a seminar on this topic.

**The abandoned equity** was discussed but no progress has been made. Since nothing concrete was presented at this meeting and we would need to figure out the processes needed to carry this out, the topic was tabled. Future discussions on this will be held in future meetings.

**Next Board Meeting** is slated for Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:45 PM in the Coop Classroom.

**A motion** was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:26PM by Darrel, seconded by Anne and it was approved.