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Volume MM, Number 12

June 21, 2018

May's General Meeting: The New York Health Care Act and Other Discussions

By Alison Rose Levy

The May 29, 2018 General Meeting was opened by Meeting Chair, Mary Beth Batcha, with Chair Committee members Tim Platt and David Moss also present.

The Open Forum

The Open Forum began with five brief presentations that expressed the views of Coop members who favor a boycott of Israeli products. Naomi Brussel spoke first, stating that Israel has received billions of dollars from U.S. taxpayers and that Israel has bombed Gaza, resulting in the deaths of many Palestinian residents of Gaza.

The next speaker said that, according to the Coop's mission, "we are not supposed to carry products that exploit. We boycott Coca Cola. We boycotted South Africa. We sell Fair Trade Coffee. We have an Animal Rights Committee." She asked, "Why is the Human Rights Committee not functional? Why do we ignore the Palestinians' call for economic and racial justice? Are some lives worth more than others? Israel has a military arsenal funded by U.S. taxpayer money, while others have rocks."

Jan Clausen then asked, "Why has there been so much silence in the Coop community? In 2015, I was part of group that got letters into the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. Subsequently, the *Gazette* editors decided that all



PHOTOS BY ROD MORRISON

Clockwise from top left: Allen Zimmerman, Martha Livingston, Jesse Rosenfeld, Bill Penner.

topics on this issue had been covered, and would therefore be excluded. This is not what a democratic coop looks like." (In the Letters section of this *Gazette*, readers can find the Editorial Team policy on the coverage of recurring topics.)

Mary Buchwald spoke next, expressing her view that coops are historically progressive. She quoted Gandhi who wrote that "Silence becomes cowardice when the occasion demands speaking out the whole truth and acting accordingly."

The last presentation came from Carol Wald, who felt that "This issue strikes home because our tax dollars are

supporting a military megolith against homeless people." She asserted that "We've had a motion before the Agenda Committee that has not moved in two years [which is] an issue of the Coop democracy, along with the health of democratic institutions. If there is something that evokes so much passion that we can't find a meeting hall, then we should move to electronic voting."

Financial Report

New General Coordinator of finance Stephanie Lee presented the financial report, noting net sales of \$13,297,554.00 in

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A Farm Grows in Red Hook: Healthy Produce for All

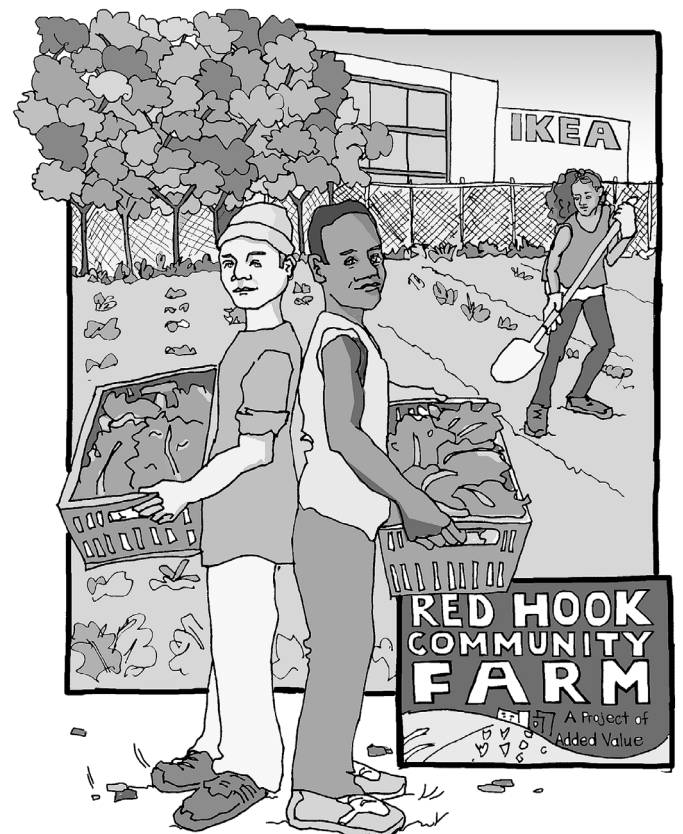


ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

By Frank Haberle

The PSFC Coop is located in Brooklyn's Community Board 6, a large tract of land that reaches from Park Slope to Red Hook. In terms of healthy food options, it is a tale of two cities. In Red Hook, home to one of the City's oldest and largest public housing projects, Red Hook Houses, there have been historically very few outlets for healthy nutritious food. While the introduction of a Whole Foods store made healthy greens and vegetables available, there is still a wide difference between current market costs and what lower-income families can afford.

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Annual & General Meeting on June 26

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The June Annual & General Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 26, at 7:00 p.m. at **St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.**

The agenda is in this *Gazette*, on www.foodcoop.com and available as a flier in the entryway of the Coop. For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

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General Meeting

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the 12 week period covered. “The surplus created by the difference between inventory costs and sales goes to cover operating costs,” Lee reported that the “inventory turnover currently takes place 69 times a year, although some products and product areas turn over more (or less) frequently than that average. Two new expenses are the renovation of the two shopping floor bathrooms as well as an extensive roof repair project.” Copies of the Coop’s financial report are available in the elevator lobby.

Produce and Administrative Reports

GC Joe Szladek reported that the watermelons and strawberries from Florida are now in stock with the latter cost under \$5 a quart. Other highlights include peaches, local broccoli rabe, and lychees. The freezer case has grass fed beef bones at \$1/lb., compared to \$4 sold elsewhere. A new prepared food vendor, Samesa, offers cauliflower salad and beet salad among other items. One member asked if there are other options than buying a whole watermelon. Szladek advised, “paging to see if anyone wants to split one with you.”

The aforementioned bathroom renovations will start Monday, June 4 and last for four to six weeks. Little houses to be built around the bathrooms will contain the construction mess, but Szladek still expects some disruption. Bathrooms will be available upstairs.

Due to Denney Marcelle’s retirement, the Coop is looking for someone to undertake repairs, electric, plumbing, and carpentry. Interested parties should respond to *Gazette* notices and apply.

Herpel reported that St. Francis School, which has provided its auditorium for GMs over the past few years, will close in June. “We are looking for a new space,” she said. The website and *Gazette* will announce the location of future GMs. The Annual Meeting on June 26 will be held at St. Francis.

Herpel also announced that starting on June 4, 2018, “the Coop enters the 21st century.” Members applauded. The Member Services portion of the Coop website will contain a password-protected area where members can find their personal information, such as member status and future work shift dates. “Members will need to register with the email on file in the current member record,” Herpel said. “If the Coop has an

outdated email for you, you will have to come into the Membership Office to update that.”

Committee Reports

Susan Metz gave the International Trade and Education Squad report at short notice, due to the unexpected absence of another squad member. She said that there were many unresolved issues with the proposed revision of NAFTA, which may not be voted on until 2019 when the new Congress is sworn in. The ITES has met with the respective staffs of both Senator Charles Schumer and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, who have both previously voted against other trade agreements. On June 19, the ITES will hold a seminar on finding candidates who conform to your values—and how to approach them. Links to the event can be found at: Coopites.wordpress.com.

Richard Mandelbaum announced a vacancy on the Labor Committee, which he chairs. Those interested can reach out to the committee. A forum for agricultural workers is planned for the fall. The committee may also get involved with a New York State campaign to grant farm workers the same labor rights as other workers.

Agenda

The Chair pointed out that elections for committee members who participate in financial decisions, are held at the GM. At this meeting, members voted on the re-election of one committee member from the Revolving Loan Committee (RLC) and one from the Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC, formerly known as the Disciplinary Committee).

GC Joe Holtz explained that the “Coop has been involved with helping other coops for decades,” in many cases advising other coops on how to get started.” The RLC was founded six years ago, and one of its founding members, Rachel Porter, was up for re-election. She noted that although few coops use our member model, the Coop had provided technical assistance and, in some cases, small loans to a number of Brooklyn-based coops. The RLC is looking for an additional member who has marketing and PR experience. Interested members can look for an ad in the *Gazette*. A vote of 273–10 confirmed Porter’s re-election.

Curtis March, the DRC member up for re-election, was unable to attend the meeting, but was spoken of favorably by his two colleagues. March has been on the committee for several election cycles, and “provides a lot of experience in these

complicated procedures and policy.” His prepared statement read: “We listen, and provide resolution to issues of behavior to solve the issues and meet the needs of Coop.” He was reelected by a vote of 267–7.

The NY Health Act

The next agenda item was a discussion of a proposal that the Coop endorse the NY Health Act, which, if passed, would guarantee health care to all New Yorkers. This endorsement would “send a powerful message” about addressing changes in the current U.S. health care system. In New York State, the bill has been passed three years in the NYS Assembly. In the NYS Senate, one more vote is needed for passage, Lynn Evans told the meeting. If passed, the act would cover all types of necessary medical care. More information is available at: www.Nyhcampaign.org.

Marion Yuen said: “I’m passionate about this act because it benefits all of us. You are not alone if you’ve had to hassle about whether insurance will cover a treatment you need. Endorsing the Health Act is in keeping with the Coop’s mission.”

Nancy Romer added that “It’s better for people to get health care when they need it, rather than delay due to the costs, until health conditions are more extreme and acute, when expenses can lead to bankruptcy.” Romer pointed out that, “This legislation is better for small businesses and start ups that cannot afford to pay for health insurance. For union members, it would decrease union dues. NYS has an opportunity to step forward on climate, health, and education. By helping to pass Medicare for all, state-by-state, we can win nationally. The Coop has well-earned prestige for helping everyone’s health, through providing this great food at affordable prices. So I hope you will support this.”

Martha Livingston, who is a physician and a member of the Physicians for a National Health Program, recalled that, “after the 2016 election, the prior agreement about health care was under attack. Nationally, single payer, improved Medicare for all, just got really popular. If we can get this through the NYS Senate and Assembly, Governor Cuomo will sign it,” she predicted. “We are this close.” Members can sign a petition at http://www.bit.ly/PSFC_NYHA_petition.

Meeting attendees had some questions. Since the Coop pays \$1.3 million annually to cover employee health



PHOTOS BY ROD MORRISON

Clockwise from top left: Stephanie Lee, Joe Szladek, Susan Metz, Nancy Romer.

benefits, Holtz asked what savings there might be to the Coop. “How is it funded? What would businesses pay? What would our employees expected to contribute?” Martha Livingston responded to Holtz’s question by saying that, “All but the wealthiest New Yorkers will save money. It will cost less, because we would get rid of health profiteers. Responsible businesses, like the Coop, will save a bundle.”

There was no further discussion but the members gave a big round of applause.

Removing the “No” Vote from the Ballot

Next up on the agenda was Susan Metz’s discussion of a proposal to remove from the ballot the option to vote “no” or “abstain” in the election of the Board of Directors. This would result in “the person who gets the most votes winning.” Metz told the GM that she explores the rationale for this fully in a letter published in the May 24, 2018 issue of the *Gazette*.

Herpel pointed out that only the ballots for the Board of Director offer the option of “yes,” “no,” and “abstain,” and to alter this ballot requires a change of the bylaws. Changing the ballots of other types of votes would require changing a different document.

Metz agreed that a bylaw change would be required. “I think a “no” vote is unnecessary. If someone puts themselves forward for leadership and takes responsibility, why should they get “no” votes?” Metz said that she sees a shift in responsibility from the Board to the management. “Policy and planning have to come from the members. We need a better balance with more people stepping up. In two successive Board elections, we haven’t had enough candidates.” To attain an autonomous and

democratic organization, Metz proposes to encourage, rather than discourage, people “willing to take leadership, run for office, and run for governance committees.”

Another member said that, a “yes” only option feels like an anointment rather than a democratic process.”

Board member Allen Zimmerman recalled that, “from time to time we had candidates who could not get a dozen votes—so we included a “no” vote to prevent someone with minimal votes being elected when there were multiple candidates.”

Another member asked, “Why do we have so many elections with one member standing, and it’s always the same people? There should be more people volunteering for different roles. How do we broaden participation from newer members?”

In the past, more people ran for the Board, Metz recalled. She proposed a quorum, with 51% of members voting for the Directors. “We need competitive elections with publicized results.”

Bill Penner, another Board member, told Metz he was “sorry that you experienced it as a humiliating process. One of the issues is that we don’t have a lot of candidates – not just for BOD, but for a number of other committees. We can function with one less. But I take issue with the implication that it’s not democratic when there are so few candidates.” Rachel Asher, also on the Board, added that, “when we don’t have enough competition, we need to have an option to vote ‘no.’”

Minutes

Secretary Jesse Rosenberg presented the minutes for the March 27, 2018 and April 24, 2018 GMs.

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General Meeting

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Board of Directors Meeting

The six Board Members present accepted the minutes of the April and March meetings; and all voted in favor of accepting the advice of members on the elections to the RLC and the DRC.

The Chair Committee has openings and seeks to intro-

duce further diversity among its candidates.

Editor's Note Based on E-mail Conversation with General Coordinator Ann Herpel

The proposal for a meeting was submitted in May 2015. The Agenda Committee asked the paid staff to find a venue large enough to accommodate the 1700+ members (the number who attended a 2012

meeting at which the GM voted on the proposal to hold a referendum on joining the BDS movement.)

Due to feedback from the Police Department, the Department of Education, and staff of Brooklyn Tech High School, in conducting the venue search, the GCs felt obligated to disclose the meeting topic. Following an exhaustive search, they found that none of any size or price

would agree to rent to the Coop if that item (or a similar topic) is on the agenda.

This information has been reported both to the Agenda Committee, and to the General Meeting multiple times. Since the Agenda Committee cannot schedule an item for which the Coop does not have a venue, the GCs have also invited members to search and locate a space for the Coop to rent.

The approval of any refer-

endum, mail ballot, or electronic vote would have to be a GM decision. The bylaws don't give the General Coordinators' authority to initiate a referendum, without prior Board authorization, following a vote by members present at the GM. Although it is within the Board's legal purview to call for such a vote, it is unprecedented for the Board to act independently of the advice of members, as voted at the GM. ■

A Farm Grows

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Today, residents of Red Hook Houses are taking matters into their own hands. Developed on NYCHA property, Red Hook Houses Farm is a thriving 1.1 acre community farm that grows thousands of pounds of healthy produce, all available to families living in Red Hook Houses. Instead of paying cash, residents can bring their compost—exchanging it pound-for-pound for food—or serve as volunteers tending the garden, staffing the tables and handing out flyers to other residents who may not know about the Farm and its programs.

At a moment when NYCHA is often in the headlines for negative reasons, the success of this program is a bright spot for residents of Red Hook Houses. “The community really likes to hang out on the farm,” Nefratia Coleman, the NYCHA farmer who manages Red Hook Houses Farm, says. “Having a farm in the middle of a NYCHA Housing Development makes it easy for parents to drop off their kids in school, and then come in and volunteer during the day. Kids come after school to water and help with the harvest. We have all different ages working together on our farm—senior citizens, young children with their parents, and older teenagers.”

Growing in the Red Hook Community: Added Value

Red Hook Houses Farm has grown through a strong partnership between NYCHA; Green City Corps, an AmeriCorps Program that has trained more than 400 young people from urban areas for careers in the environment; and Added Value Farms, an urban farming and food justice nonprofit in Red Hook. Operating two farms and a composting center, Added Value's programs include a teen farm apprenticeship (employing between 5 and 25 teens each year), a weekly farm stand, a CSA, and a

school workshop program. Last year the two farms produced 20,000 pounds of produce for the people of Red Hook, hosted more than 1,200 local school children for a farm-based learning program; and composted in partnership with the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, NYC Compost and the Park Slope Food Coop over 200 tons of organic waste.

Saara Nafici, a Park Slope Food Coop member since 2006 and Executive Director of Added Value for the past three years, came to Added Value after developing a successful teen apprentice program at the Botanic Garden. “The Red Hook Houses Farm started when Added Value was approached by the Mayors' Office to help NYCHA houses start a farm on vacant property,” Nafici remembers. “Their project envisioned ways to make the city greener and to involve disconnected youth. Red Hook Houses was the first site. The farm was built on the vacant lot, before Sandy hit the area; the entire farm had to be rebuilt.”

“The young people we work with in our program still remember that the Red Hook Houses Farm was once an overgrown lot, knee-high in weeds,” Nafici adds. “The farm initiative has been really exciting for the entire community, who see it as a very positive use of an underutilized resource. The Farm has become a lovely community crossroad, a plaza for neighborhood children and adults. It has a small playground in it. It's directly across from PS 15, and neighborhood children pass through it and around it on their way home from school. It is a place that's full of positive energy, loved and cared for by residents. If you want produce, you just bring compost or volunteer. And you take home peppers, tomatoes, the works.”

There are currently four NYCHA farms on public housing property, operated with partner organizations: Bayview Houses Farm

in Canarsie (with partner organization East New York Farms); Howard Houses Farm in Brownsville (with partner organization Isabahlia Ladies of Elegance Foundation); Wagner Houses Farm in East Harlem (with partner organization Harlem Grown) and the Red Hook Houses Farm (Added Value).

A NYCHA Farm, a NYCHA Farmer

Coleman, the NYCHA Farmer who manages the farm and its programs at Red Hook Houses, was born and raised in NYCHA Housing in Fort Greene. Coleman started her journey into urban farming in 2015 while serving a 11-month AmeriCorps term with Green City Force on the Urban Farm Corps team, managing Red Hook Houses farm from its beginning. “Coming from NYCHA Housing,” Coleman says, “I've been aware throughout my life that residents of our communities don't have access to healthy food markets. Growing up, my father was a vegan and I've never eaten meat in my life. But I also saw the impact of healthy food access on our community in terms of high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity. In Red Hook, much like the NYCHA housing I grew up in, the community had very few healthy food options.”

Coleman learned about the opportunity to work as an AmeriCorps volunteer from a flyer in her building. “When I saw the flyer, it described a farm on NYCHA property in Red Hook,” she says. “My response was, ‘there is a farm on NYCHA property, and I didn't know about it?’ I started in 2015, and the program was all about sustainability, urban agriculture and energy efficiency. I helped teach in public schools and worked on the compost pile. After my term I worked for a year at East New York Farms. At the time, Added Value was still working on transitioning the farm at Red Hook Houses.”

Coleman adds that the

support and participation of residents of Red Hook Houses has been amazing. “They come to the garden for distribution and the only thing they have to do is bring compost, or volunteer some time farming, or hand out flyers. Last year we distributed 6,000 pounds of food from the garden to 2,400 residents—500 who worked as volunteers. People feel like they are growing their own food. Many are enthusiastic about helping with planting.”

“Because the residents are a diverse group, we grow diverse offerings: okra, special tomatoes, peppers, strawberries, bok choy, cabbage, eggplant, cauliflower—the list goes on and on. We try to make the residents happy, and we try to encourage them to take foods they may not have tried.” Coleman's long-term vision is to see a farm operating in every NYCHA development in New York City.

Visit, Support or Volunteer at Red Hook Houses Farm

Red Hook Houses Farm welcomes visitors and volunteers at all times, especially on Wednesday afternoons. For more information about Added Value and how you can get involved, please visit www.added-value.org.

Upcoming Events at the Farm Include:

Wednesday, June 20, 12:30-3: Farm Kick Off Day: Meet the farmers, take a tour of the site, and learn about this season's crops.

Wednesday, July 11, 1:30-3:30 pm: Herb Workshop: Learn how you can use herbs for lotions & potions using common herbs from the farm.

Saturday, August 19, 1-3 pm: Hot Sauce Workshop: Make fresh hot sauce with the peppers grown on the NYCHA farm. ■



Please protect your feet and toes while working your shift at the Coop by not wearing sandals or other open-toed footwear.

**Thanks for your cooperation,
The Park Slope Food Coop**

NEW:

VIEW YOUR MEMBER INFO ONLINE!

➤ Register for a Member Services account and get 24/7 access to a snapshot of your member info: member & household status, current work slot, upcoming shift dates, including FTOP, and number of make-ups owed.

➤ Click “Member Services” on foodcoop.com to register.

Use the email address you have on file in the Office to create an account.

Don't remember that email or need to update it? Visit the Office in person to verify or update your information.

Paper Products: Cleaning up at Home—and Burdening the Planet?

By Heidi Brown

Facial tissue, toilet paper, diaper wipes, paper towels—each of these products is made from a substance derived from trees—and the Coop carries them in several different brands. Tissue is available in three brands; toilet paper in four; diaper wipes in five and paper towels in three. What members prefer, despite concern about the environment, shows up in our buying habits at the Coop: Members buy more rolls of heavy-duty Bounty—manufactured from non-recycled timber—than Seventh Generation, according to Joe Holtz. Only Field Day paper towels are more popular than Bounty.

Even items from non-recycled material, like paper towels and tissue, are being produced more sustainably.

But for those wondering what impact our choices have, the answer, unfortunately, is not straightforward. Despite improvements in the way paper products are manufactured and an increase in recycled choices on the market, most difficult seems to be how little information is readily available to concerned consumers. In short, it's really hard to discern how much difference it makes to simply switch from Bounty to brown paper towels.

For those not in the know about the paper-goods industry, a few facts may be helpful. In the last 10 years, even the mainstream U.S. business community has begun taking concrete steps to acknowledge and mitigate the effects of the production and use of consumer paper products on the environment. Under the banner of corporate social responsibility, nearly every large U.S. paper-products manufacturer can certify to membership in some kind of forestry good-stewardship organization. The Global Forest & Trade Network, a part of the

World Wildlife Fund, is an example. Members include Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. (maker of Kleenex and Scott) and Procter & Gamble (owner of the Bounty brand). The WWF's Global Network is staffed with scientists and consultants around the world who help member firms audit their suppliers for sustainable practices. It also helps members learn about implementing sustainable forestry within their own operations. The Forestry Stewardship Council is an international, self-governing body of member companies and individuals which works to set standards for the use of forests to make consumer products in an environmentally low-impact manner. (Member organizations can print the "FSC" symbol on their packaging.)

The upshot? Even items from non-recycled material, like paper towels and tissue, are being produced more sustainably. U.S. forests are now audited—even by the large, mainstream producers—for responsible tree cultivation, biodiversity maintenance, water conservation and conscientious timber clearing. Manufacturers are working harder to track the origin of imported pulp (a timber product often used in things like diapers and wipes). More paper and fiber are being recycled for use in new products.

However, a May 2016 study published in the *Journal of Cleaner Production* (the scintillatingly titled "Detailed Life Cycle Assessment of Bounty Paper Towel Operations in the United States") suggests that even among companies with published goals of sustainable forestry and increased recovery of paper product for recycling, producing non-recycled paper products like paper towels still takes an environmental toll.

The study, which was the result of a collaboration between the Environmental Protection Agency and Procter & Gamble, looked at the differences in environmental impact

of one roll of Bounty paper towels produced at two different P&G plants—a decades-old factory in Albany, Georgia, and a newer factory in Box Elder, Utah. It found that, despite the Box Elder plant's newer, less fossil-fuel-intensive machinery, that factory used much more water in the production of the roll of paper towels than the older factory. It also released far more particulate matter into the air. The Georgia factory is located in a part of the state that still relies largely on coal burning for the production of electricity, while the Utah plant had access to hydroelectric energy. Still, an important point, according to the study authors, is the power-intensive nature of the manufacture of paper products—and how complicated it can be to mitigate the ecological impact of the manufacturing process. Bounty announced just before the study was published that it would be building a 50 megawatt "biomass" power generation facility on the premises of the Albany plant. Because this plant is so large, according to the authors, once the facility is up and running, it could significantly assist P&G in reaching a 2020 goal of acquiring 30% of its energy from renewable sources.

Even the American Forest & Paper Association, the industry's lobbying group, acknowledged in its 2016 report on its members' progress on reaching self-imposed sustainability goals that producing new paper products is a polluting activity. While heralding its members' focus on reducing water and fossil-fuel use, it noted that its members are still working to reduce the amount of "purchased"—i.e., not self-generated—electricity they acquire and have not yet reached their water-consumption reduction goals (it was at 10,500 gallons per ton of production in 2014; the goal is 10,000).

So, does that mean 100% recycled is the way to go? Unfortunately, the lack of straightforward information about the ecological impact of paper production makes the question tough for shoppers to answer. And even when one type is clearly less harmful than another, which is better overall? At the PSFC, members can choose from a variety of paper towels and toilet paper made from 100% post-consumer material under the Field Day,



ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTIT

Seventh Generation (since 2016, owned by Unilever) and Natural Value brands.

For PSFC members who often try to prioritize ecological impact with their purchases, better data—and less hype from companies about “green” ingredients and social responsibility—would help Coop buyers and members make the best choices for the wallet and the planet.

But, while they proudly promote their commitment to the environment, Seventh Generation, Natural Value and Field Day do not disclose the energy or water-use footprint of their manufacturing (Seventh Generation does acknowledge on its website that its use of post-consumer paper in its paper towels uses more energy than the production of towels from virgin material, which accounts for its sometimes higher price. Seventh Generation also disclosed its greenhouse gas emissions for 2016: 59,000 metric tons). Such opacity makes it hard to know whether it's better to use less Bounty, for example, or more Field Day paper towels.

Baby wipes are also available at the PSFC from companies that use organic (although not recycled) material. If a shopper is concerned only about the safety of the product, there is plenty of choice. Other than Field Day and Seventh Generation, wipes using organic content are sold under the Earth's Best (owned by Hain Celestial Group, Inc.), Eco by Naty and The Honest Co. brands. Although Earth's Best does not disclose its environmental footprint, Hain Celestial acknowledged in its last public-

ly available sustainability report, in 2015, that its water use had increased and that it was planning to undertake an assessment in 2016.

Eco by Naty extols its commitment to the environment, but, like other private companies, it provides little public information about its operations. However, the company has earned certification from two European accreditation organizations. A Belgium-based, private ecological certifier, Vincotte, granted Eco by Naty the four-star "OK Biobased" label, which guarantees at least 80% organic material contents. But the designation that Vincotte applies does not address energy use in the manufacture of the product. However, Eco by Naty also bears a "Good Environmental Choice" designation from the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation. This non-profit organization audits a candidate's water and energy use before providing certification.

The PSFC has an environmental committee tasked with helping buyers assess these questions, says Elizabeth Christ, the Coop's buying coordinator for paper products. The committee "informally monitor[s] new products that appear on the shelves, and when questions arise, discuss[es] them with the buyers," she explains. Buyers also "work in cooperation with the Environmental Committee to identify substitute products." Still, for PSFC members who often try to prioritize ecological impact with their purchases, better data—and less hype from companies about "green" ingredients and social responsibility—would help Coop buyers and members make the best choices for the wallet and the planet. ■



ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

INTERNATIONAL TRADE EDUCATION
SQUAD REPORT

ITES Update

By Bart DeCoursy, International Trade Education Squad

House Speaker Paul Ryan tried to set a deadline of May 17 to conclude the renegotiations of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in order to try and force the renegotiations to end in the amount of time necessary under the laws of the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA—also known as fast track) and to be voted on by the current Congress. Once the deal is finalized, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) office has 60 days to deliver the report on what changes this will make to our laws, and then there are 90 days from that point for Congress to review and pass an up or down vote on the deal. There's obviously speculation that the Democrats will regain congressional control come November, so the Republicans would like to get it settled before then.

However, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer has stated there are "gaping differences" between Canada, Mexico and the United States, the three NAFTA member countries, in the areas of intellectual property, agricultural trade, duty free levels for shipments, labor rules and other areas—namely the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism that limits risk, encourages outsourcing and enables corporations to sue governments, with settlements coming out of taxpayer money.

Speaker Ryan has since pushed back his deadline as it seems to have been more of a threat than a reality. Trump dismissed the deadline as well.

There was some talk of a "Skinny Deal" that would propose to hammer out a deal now and then discuss labor and ISDS later. A staunch defender of American Manufacturing, Lighthizer opposed NAFTA when it was constructed and has stated that we are "nowhere near a deal." Lighthizer is fighting to level the playing field for American workers by going after the rules of origin clause—he wants more of the cars made in America, all of the parts made within the three countries, and also for Mexican wages to rise in an effort to stop outsourcing jobs for cheaper labor across the border.

In more recent news, Trump is also considering a 25% tax on imported cars—this comes a week prior to the end of exemptions for Mexico and Canada from Trump's

steel and aluminum tariff.

There is a trade pact between the EU and Australia where they have removed the ISDS clause due to how increasingly unpopular it has become. This is a pretty huge development as it may signal the end of ISDS—interestingly enough, they are trying to keep this decision as quiet as possible as they are trying to keep ISDS alive in the Trans-Pacific Partnership-11 (TPP11—this is what the TPP is now called since the U.S. withdrawal).

Finally, at the G7 Summit

Trump again made headlines for his boorish behavior. But this may underscore any gains made in re-examining the long-standing bi-partisan presidential support for international trade policies that have led to the loss of 4.5 million American jobs since the signing of NAFTA. In spite of polls showing that GOP and Independent voters support a change in trade policies, the Koch brothers have started a lobbying campaign with Republican lawmakers to stand up to Trump to preserve the status quo. ■

Tip of the
MONTH!

In the winter leave
your blinds or
curtains open
during the day to
warm your home.
During the summer,
use shades, blinds
or curtains to keep
your home cool.
It really works!

Learn more at:
ecokvetch.blogspot.com

PLASTIC PACKAGING RECYCLING

2nd Wednesday of every month 3:45-6 p.m.

4th Saturday of every month 1:45-4 p.m.

For Coop members only

Please be prepared to show your Coop membership card.

Plastic bags/wrap/package from most products sold at the Coop—food and non-food.

Thin plastic film wrap—from notecards, tea boxes, pre-packaged cheese, household items, pet food, juice packs, etc.

Plastic roll bags distributed by the Coop—please use roll bags only as necessary, reduce usage whenever possible, and re-use any bags you do take before recycling.

Plastic food storage zip lock bags (any size), plastic cling wrap, and small bulk bags.

NO food residue, rinse as needed.
Only soft plastic from Coop purchases.

For all community
members:

Pre-sort and separate according to the categories below.



Toothbrushes and toothpaste tubes
Energy bar wrappers and granola bar wrappers
Brita water filters and related items (other brands also accepted)
Cereal and cracker bags/box liners



Donations in any amount are welcomed to help offset the cost to the Coop of this collection.

Interested in joining the squads that run the Wednesday/Saturday collection, or in starting a third collection time as your workslot?
Contact Cynthia Pennycooke in the Membership Office.

For more information about Terracycle, visit terracycle.com

Questions about items we accept should be e-mailed to ecokvetch@yahoo.com

STATEMENT ON THE
COOPERATIVE IDENTITY

DEFINITION

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

VALUES

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

PRINCIPLES

The cooperative principles are guidelines by which cooperatives put their values into practice. The International Cooperative Alliance adopted the revised Statement on the Cooperative Identity in 1995.

They are as follows:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

REFERENCE: ICA.COOP

LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* is published biweekly by the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc., 782 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215, 718-622-0560. Opinions expressed here may be solely the views of the writer. The *Gazette* will not knowingly publish articles that are racist, sexist or otherwise discriminatory.

The *Gazette* welcomes Coop-related articles and letters from members.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The *Gazette* will not knowingly publish letters, articles or reports that are hateful, racist, sexist, otherwise discriminatory, inflammatory or needlessly provocative.

The *Gazette* welcomes Coop-related articles, letters and committee reports from members that follow the published guidelines and policies. The following is a summary—please see the detailed guidelines for each type of submission on the Coop website: www.foodcoop.com.

All submissions must include author's name, phone number and e-mail address, conform to the following guidelines and to the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies. Editors will reject letters, articles and reports that do not follow the guidelines or policies. Submission deadlines appear each edition in the Coop Calendar section.

For topics that generate a large number of submissions (letters or Member Articles) serially and continuously over an extended period of time, the *Gazette* will not necessarily publish all submissions, but the editors will use their editorial discretion to select a small number of submissions (whether letters or Member Articles) from each side as representative of that viewpoint of the issue. The selected submissions will also adhere to the current guidelines of civil discourse and should serve to advance the discussion in new ways.

You may submit via e-mail to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop.

Letters: Maximum 500 words.

Voluntary Articles: Maximum 750 words. A Voluntary Article is held to a higher standard than a letter and must meet at least the following criteria: A Voluntary Article must analyze the topic it is discussing; it must present accurate, verifiable corroboration for factual assertions; it can criticize but not attack Coop practices and personnel; if critical it must present positive solutions; it cannot be solely or mainly opinion. It must strive to make a positive contribution to the understanding of the reader on a topic. If a submitted Voluntary Article is substantially opinion, it must be re-submitted, under 500 words, as a Letter to the Editor, possibly to a future issue. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses, those of family and friends of members, solely expressions of opinion or that do not follow the guidelines and policies.

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words. Reports must follow the published guidelines and policies.

LETTERS, ARTICLES AND REPORTS SUBMISSION POLICIES

Letters must be the opinion of the letter-writer and can contain no more than 25% non-original writing.

All submissions must be written by the writer. Letters or articles that are form letters, chain letters, template letters or letters prepared by someone other than the submitting member will be rejected.

Letters, articles and reports must adhere to the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies. They cannot be hateful, needlessly inflammatory, discriminatory libelous, personal attacks or make unsubstantiated claims or accusations or be contrary to the values of the Coop as expressed in our mission statement.

All submissions must be legible, intelligible, civil, well and concisely written with accurate, attributed, easily verifiable statements of facts separated from opinions.

Letter and article writers are limited to one letter or article per issue.

Letter and article writers cannot write gratuitous serial submissions. Editors may reject submissions to consecutive editions of the *Gazette* on the same topic by the same writer.

Editor-Writer Guidelines: All submissions will be reviewed and, if necessary, edited or rejected by the editor. Writers are responsible for the factual content of their stories. Editors must make a reasonable effort to contact and communicate with writers regarding any questions or proposed editorial changes. Writers must be available to editors to confer about their submissions. If a writer does not respond to requests for editorial changes, the editor may make the changes without conferring with the writer, or reject the submission. If agreement between the writer and the editor about changes does not occur after a first revision, the editor may reject the submission, and the writer may revise and resubmit for a future issue.

FAIRNESS, ANONYMITY AND RESPECT POLICIES

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

Fairness

1. The *Gazette* will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author's first-hand observation.

2. Nor will we publish accusations that are unnecessary, not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions. The *Gazette* will not publish gratuitous personalization. That is, no unnecessary naming of Coop members in polemical letters and articles. Writers must address ideas not persons.

3. Submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals, necessary to make the point of the submission and within the Fairness, Anonymity and Respect policies will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

Anonymity

Unattributed letters will not be published unless the *Gazette* knows the identity of the writer, and therefore must be signed when submitted (giving phone number). Such letters will be published only where a reason is given to the editor as to why public identification of the writer would impose an unfair burden of embarrassment or difficulty. Such letters must relate to Coop issues and avoid any non-constructive, non-cooperative language.

Respect

Submissions to the *Gazette* must not be hateful, racist, sexist, otherwise discriminatory, inflammatory or needlessly provocative. They may not be personally derogatory or insulting, even when strongly criticizing an individual member's actions.

The *Gazette* is a collaboration among Coop members. When submitting, please consider the impact of your words on the writers, editors and production staff who use our limited workslot time to try to produce an informative and cooperative publication that reflects the values of our Coop community.

Printed by: Tri-Star Offset, Maspeth, NY.

SUMMERTIME

DON'T FORGET YOUR COOP SHIFT!



If you plan on being away during one of your workslots, please make arrangements to have your shift covered.

One way to do it is to use the Shift Swap at www.foodcoop.com!

If you plan on being away for eight weeks or more, contact the Membership Office to take a leave of absence.

YOUR CO-WORKERS WILL LOVE YOU FOR IT!

RETURN POLICY



The Coop strives to keep prices low for our membership. Minimizing the amount of returned merchandise is one way we do this. If you need to make a return, please go to the 2nd Floor Service Desk.

REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

1. The Paid-In-Full receipt **MUST** be presented.
2. Returns must be handled within 30 days of purchase.

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

No, we do not "exchange" items. You must return the merchandise and re-purchase what you need.

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

Produce* Bulk* (incl. Coop-bagged bulk)
Cheese* Seasonal Holiday Items
Books Special Orders
Calendars Refrigerated Supplements
Juicers & Oils
Sushi *A buyer is available during the week-days to discuss your concerns.

NEVER
RETURNABLE

Refrigerated Goods (not listed above)
Frozen Goods
Meat & Fish
Bread

RETURNABLE
ONLY IF SPOILED
BEFORE
EXPIRATION DATE
Packaging/label
must be present-
ed for refund.

Items not listed above that are unopened
and unused in re-sellable condition

RETURNABLE

The Coop reserves the right to refuse returns on a case-by-case basis. If you have questions, please contact a staff member in the Membership Office.

This Issue Prepared By:

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WELCOME!

A warm welcome to these new Coop members who have joined us in the last two weeks. We're glad you've decided to be a part of our community.

Rachel Abrams	Bershan Brown	Christopher Fottrell	Ebony Johnson	Celine Marchal	Allison Ray	Mikayla Summers
Robert Ackerman	Suzanne Burdman	Sunder Ganglani	Jason Knight	David Matulewicz-	Amelea Renshaw	Pierre Sussman
Michie Adachi	Natasha Camille	Rebecca Gerrard	Nicole Lanza	Crowley	Angie Roca	Hotep Thom
Josh Adler	Paula Ceballos	Ashleigh Goh	Harper Lieblich	Michael Matulewicz-	Zachary Rogers	Shilpika Varma
Devin Altobello	Chelsea Christman	Jennifer Gooley	Katie Liederman	Crowley	Phil Rose	Alexandra Whitney
Joanne Andre	Thomas (Tom) Conroy	Gabe Gordon	Melana Lloyd	Rachel Mercier	Wendy Rose	Zachary Williams
Erika Audie	Robert Constantino	Eliza Greene-Smith	Mitsuru Lowe	Zane Morris	Joshua Sakofsky	Mario Yanez
Priya Bansal	Giona Corso-Winks	Kevin Grinnell	Miwa Lowe	Omar Niazi	Angbeen Saleem	Thomas York
Ysanet Batista	Chelsie Craig	Emily Hollyday	Ben Lowry	Claire ONEill	Christopher Shaver	Alexandra Zuur
Arianna Berk	Mary Curtin	Julianne Honea	Lauren Lowry	Philip Ording	Roberta Shiffman	
Hannah Berman	Jennifer Dacumos	Lucy Howat	Graeme MacMillan	Jules Ostro	Gabriel Smith	
Maya Bernstein-Schalet	Kristin Daily	Robert Hunter	Anastasiya Malyuta	Chelsea Parise	Kathleen Smith	
Carolina Blanco	Emily Dalmás	Molly Jackson	Ivan Malyuta	Andrew Pascal	Gregory Snyder	
Eva Bleyer	Alya Davis	Ak Jansen	Victoria Manganiello	Nirmal Pathak	Elazar Sontag	
Justine Bracero	Darren DeFranco	Dan Janzen	Iris Mansour	Lierin Pena	Amy Stern	
Julian Brezon	Adam Elewa	Brandon Johnson	Bertrand Marchal	Lydia Prystaj	Thomas Stern	

COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the three weekly New Member Orientations. To pre-register, visit foodcoop.com or contact the Membership Office. Visit in person or call 718-622-0560 during office hours.

Have questions about Orientation? Please visit www.foodcoop.com and look at the "Join the Coop" page for answers to frequently asked questions.

The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

The fourth FRIDAY of the month at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Channels: 56 (Time-Warner), 69 (CableVision), 84 (RCN), 44 (Verizon), and live streaming on the Web: www.bricartsmedia.org/community-media/bcat-tv-network.

General Meeting Info

TUE, JUNE 26:

ANNUAL & GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, JULY 10 (one week later than usual)

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 7:30 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the July 31 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Jul 5 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jun 25
Jul 19 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jul 9

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Jul 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Jun 27
Jul 19 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Jul 11

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the open monthly General Meetings have been at the center of the Coop's decision-making process. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors. The Coop continued the tradition of General Meetings by requiring the Board to have open meetings and to receive the advice of the members at General Meetings. The Board of Directors, which is required to act legally and responsibly, has approved almost every General Meeting decision at the end of every General Meeting. Board members are elected at the Annual Meeting in June. Copies of the Coop's bylaws are available on foodcoop.com and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 26, 7:00 p.m.

The General Meeting is held on the last Tuesday of each month.

Location

St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President Street, between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

How to Place an Item on the Agenda

If you have something you'd like discussed at a General Meeting, please complete a submission form for the Agenda Committee. Forms are available in the rack near the Coop Community Corner bulletin board and at General Meetings. Instructions and helpful information on how to submit an item appear on the submission form. The Agenda Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the agenda for the GM held on the last Tuesday of the month. If you have a question, please call Ann Herpel at the Coop.

Meeting Format

Warm Up (7:00 p.m.) • Submit Open Forum items

• Explore meeting literature

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.) Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting.

If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

Reports (7:30 p.m.) • Financial Report • Coordinators' Report • Committee Reports

Agenda (8:00 p.m.) The agenda is posted on foodcoop.com and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45) • Meeting evaluation • Board of Directors vote • Announcements, etc.

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

Since the Coop's inception in 1973, the General Meeting has been our decision-making body. At the General Meeting (GM) members gather to make decisions and set Coop policy. The General-Meeting-for-workslot-credit program was created to increase participation in the Coop's decision-making process.

Following is an outline of the program. *For full details, see the instruction sheets by the sign-up board.*

• Advance Sign-up required:

To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby or sign-up at foodcoop.com. The sign-ups sheet is available all month long, except for the day of the meeting when you have until 5 p.m. to sign up. On the day of the meeting, the sign-up sheet is kept in the Membership Office.

Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

Each member may take advantage of the GM-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendar year.

• Squads eligible for credit:

Shopping, Receiving/Stocking, Food Processing, Office, Maintenance, Inventory, Construction, and FTOP committees. (Some Committees are omitted because covering absent members is too difficult.)

• Attend the entire GM:

In order to earn workslot credit you must be present for the *entire* meeting.

• Signing in at the Meeting:

After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.

• Being Absent from the GM:

It is possible to cancel without penalty. We do ask that you remove your name if you know cannot attend. Please do not call the Membership Office with GM cancellations.

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

The Park Slope Food Coop is a member-owned and operated food store—an alternative to commercial profit-oriented business. As members, we contribute our labor: working together builds trust through cooperation and teamwork and enables us to keep prices as low as possible within the context of our values and principles. Only members may shop, and we share responsibilities and benefits equally. We strive to be a responsible and ethical employer and neighbor. We are a buying agent for our members and not a selling agent for any industry. We are a part of and support the cooperative movement.

We offer a diversity of products with an emphasis on organic, minimally processed and healthful foods. We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others. We support non-toxic, sustainable agriculture.

We respect the environment. We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations. We prefer to buy from local, earth-friendly producers. We recycle. We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment.

We are committed to diversity and equality. We oppose discrimination in any form. We strive to make the Coop welcoming and accessible to all and to respect the opinions, needs and concerns of every member. We seek to maximize participation at every level, from policy making to running the store.

We welcome all who respect these values.

park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

jun 23-24
sat-sun 9 am-7 pm

Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

CHIPS Soup Kitchen, located at Fourth Avenue and Sackett Street, is the recipient of much of our edible but unsaleable perishable food. They also need donations of nonperishable foods. This food will go to CHIPS to help them feed people in the neighborhood who are in need of a nutritious meal. Consider contributing nonperishable foods and commercially packaged foods; canned fish; canned fruits and vegetables; pasta sauce; pasta; pre-packaged rice; pre-packaged beans; canned beans; canned soups; Parmalat milk; dry milk; peanut butter; cooking oil; or boxed raisins. Give donations to the collection table outside the Coop.

jun 26
tue 7 pm

PSFC JUN Annual and General Meeting



Items will be taken up in the order given. Times in parentheses are suggestions. More information on each item may be available on the entrance table at the meeting. We ask members to please read the materials available between 7 and 7:15 p.m.

Meeting location: St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

I. Member Arrival and Meeting Warm-Up (7:00-7:15)

Please read materials relevant to the meeting that are available at the entrance tables.

II. ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA:

Item 1: Presentation of the Audited Financial Statement

Report & Vote: Representatives from Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, the Coop's outside auditor, will present the audited financial statement for the year ended January 28, 2018. Members will have the opportunity to pose questions to the auditors following their presentation. Members will vote whether to accept the audited statement.

Item 2: Board of Directors Election

Election: Two three-year positions are open for the Board of Directors. The candidates will make brief presentations to the meeting prior to the vote.

III. GENERAL MEETING AGENDA:

Item 1: Renewing the Services of the Auditor

Proposal: To retain the services of Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, to perform an audit of the Coop for the fiscal year ending February 3, 2019.

Item 2: Election of Officers

Election: Following the election of members to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, the General Meeting will elect Officers of the Corporation: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The President and Vice-President shall be, at the time of election, members of the Board of Directors. The positions of Treasurer and Secretary can be elected from the membership at large.

IV. Board of Directors Meeting (9:30)

V. Wrap-Up (9:30-9:45). Includes member sign-in for workslot credit.

For information on how to place an item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the Coop office.

jun 26
tue 7 pm

Unmasking Hidden Sugars

How and why to begin a low-sugar life. Did you know sugar is added to approximately 74% of packaged food products in our supermarkets? Sure, we all know that desserts and soda are obvious homes to the sweet stuff, but with more than 61 different names, you might be surprised at how many "healthy" food items actually contain added sugar. Join me for an informative discussion on added sugar—what it means, where to find it and what it does to our bodies. **Sydney Greene, RD**, is a registered dietician with a deep love for food and science. She

received her undergraduate degree in Nutrition and Dietetics from New York University, where she is finishing her Master's in Clinical Nutrition. Sydney completed her Dietetic Internship at Mt. Sinai St. Luke's. Sydney has immersed herself in food science and the many facets of our food systems. As a previous vegetarian herself, Sydney has a deep understanding of plant-based eating and hopes to make vegetables part of everyone's favorite food lists.

jun 29
fri 7:30 pm

Meet Your Mind

A Class in Basic Meditation. The fundamental nature of our mind is stable, strong and clear—yet these qualities become obscured by the stress and speed of our lives. Meditation opens and calms the mind. This is a basic meditation class for beginners, and for anyone who would like a renewed understanding of the technique. **Allan Novick** has practiced meditation since 1975. He is a meditation instructor at the New York Shambhala Center and Nalandabodhi New York and has taught meditation at corporate venues. He lives in Park Slope, has been a Coop member for many years, and is a retired school psychologist.

jul 10
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: Knife Skills

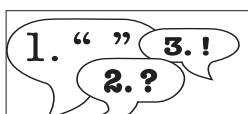


What does it take to build a world-class French restaurant? What if the staff is almost entirely men and women just out of prison? What if most have never cooked or served before, and have barely two months to learn their trade? *Knife Skills* follows the hectic launch of Edwins restaurant in Cleveland, Ohio. In this improbable setting, with its mouthwatering dishes and its arcane French vocabulary, we discover the challenges of men and women finding their way after their release. We come to know three trainees intimately, as well as the restaurant's founder, who is also dogged by his past.

See upcoming events, past reviews and a comprehensive list of films shown at www.plowtoplatefilms.com which can now also be reached via a link on the Park Slope Food Coop's home page at www.foodcoop.com.

jul 10
tue 7:30 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting



This month's Agenda Committee Meeting takes place one week later than usual. The Committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for future General Meetings. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 7:30 and 7:45 p.m.

Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com.

The July General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 7 p.m., at St. Francis Xavier School, 763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh Aves.

jul 18
wed 7 pm

Learn About Cheese at the Coop

Cheese education at the Coop continues with another tasting session led by Coop member and American Cheese Society Certified Cheese Professional **Elena Santogade**. This month's class will feature a selection of unique cheeses from around the world! Coop member and American Cheese Society Certified Cheese Professional Elena Santogade will lead the tasting and offer guidelines for pairings and for designing cheese tastings of your own.

For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: foodcoop.com

All events take place at the Park Slope Food Coop unless otherwise noted. Nonmembers are welcome to attend workshops.
Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.

Coop Job Opening:
Receiving Coordinator-Facility Repairs

The Coop is hiring a Facilities Repairs Receiving Coordinator responsible for hands-on repairs, coordination and supervision of activities related to the maintenance, repair, cleaning and improvement of the Coop's equipment and physical plant. This full-time position demands knowledge of building systems and the ability to coordinate and work well with a wide range of trades people, staff and members.

Areas of Responsibility:
Repairs and Improvements

- Maintain the Coop's physical plant and equipment through hands-on repairs and coordination of member and contractor labor
- Identify and respond promptly to needed repairs, communicate with affected staff
- Develop a regular schedule for building, systems and equipment inspection to ensure optimal function and condition
- Innovate new ways to use member labor to make light repairs to the Coop
- Participate in renovation projects

Contractor Relations

- Communicate and manage Coop's relationships with outside service providers, Initiate and track service calls
- Oversee work of refrigeration mechanics, electricians, plumbers, HVAC, waste management, fire suppression and general contractors
- Communicate and document status of jobs for continuation later in day until completion

Shared Responsibilities

- **Member of Coop Facilities Maintenance and Repairs Team supervised by a General Coordinator:** Reliability, working well with others, follow through, excellent communication and documentation required
- **Safety:** Respond rapidly to reports of potentially unsafe conditions and maintain a safe working environment
- **Maintenance Squads:** Work in cooperation with other staff to train and communicate best practices to maintenance squads Help develop a cleaning schedule for all areas of the Coop Maintain all refrigerated and freezer cases and boxes
- **Tracking Systems:** Develop and maintain a shared system of tracking repair requests and service calls Communicate about ongoing jobs, their current status or completion Develop and maintain an organized system of tracking tools
- **Tool Shed:** Maintain an organized shed so that all staff can easily access what they need
- **Pest Control:** Work in cooperation with other paid staff to coordinate Coop's pest control program
- **Waste Management and Recycling:** Improve the Coop's handling of waste and recyclables
- **Receiving Coordinator Responsibilities as needed:** Communicate with Squad Leaders and squads about priorities. Train working members how to stock and complete projects. Facilitate and supervise the continual stocking of the store. Participate in deliveries. Answer members' questions.

Requirements:

Demonstrated experience in several of the following:

- Electrical including circuits, lighting, and small motors
- Plumbing including copper pipes, pvc pipes, bathroom fixtures, and pumps
- Carpentry including building repairs and painting
- Mechanical duties including product assembly and installations
- Interfacing and sourcing contractors, materials and supplies
- Keeping maintenance records, planning maintenance schedules and documenting procedure
- Ability to delegate, oversee work and give feedback.

The ideal candidate will:

- Enjoy working with people and crowds
- Be an excellent team player with strong communication skills
- Have ability to teach, explain procedures, give feedback
- Be able to evaluate Coop needs, prioritize tasks and delegate work
- Comfort with Macs and online tracking software a plus

Wages: \$28.12/hour

Hours: 38-40 hours, Monday-Friday. Starting between 8 and 10 a.m. Some prescheduled Sunday evenings to cover absences and perform improvements; work days are flexible those weeks.

Benefits: A generous package including but not limited to: 3 weeks vacation, 11 Health/Personal days, health insurance with no payroll deduction, and a defined benefit pension plan.

Prerequisite: Must be current member of Park Slope Food Coop for at least 6 months immediately prior to application.

Applicants must be able to: Lift up to 50 pounds. Reach, crouch, bend, stand, climb stairs and work for hours in walk-in coolers and freezers. Work with and around common allergens including nuts and dust. Work in noisy, hectic surroundings. Work during holidays, the Coop's busiest times.

How to apply:

We encourage candidates to work Sunday afternoon Receiving shift. Introduce yourself to one of the Receiving Coordinators. Attach resume and cover letter as a single document at the link: <http://bit.do/receivingrepair> Applicants will receive acknowledgment of application via email. Do not call the Membership Office to check on the status of application. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until position is filled. If you applied to a previous Coop job offering, please re-submit your materials.

We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18				19				
				20	21					22				
23	24	25	26					27	28			29		
30								31				32		
33						34	35				36			
		37		38	39							40		
				41							42		43	44
45	46	47		48					49	50				
51				52			53	54						
55			56				57							
58					59	60				61	62	63	64	65
66					67					68				
69					70					71				

Across

1. Type of 37-Across ... or a two-word hint to 23- or 52-Across
6. Up to the job
10. Speak with a gravelly voice
14. Last name in Scotch
15. "____": Legacy" (2010 film sequel)
16. "If ____ believe ..."
17. Only president born outside the continental United States
18. Reality TV's Gordon Ramsay, e.g.?
20. Planted
22. Spooky
23. Medical professional used by Bert's roommate?
29. Signature 17-Across health measure, for short
30. Home to the Venus de Milo
31. Common suffix on chemical elements
32. D-Day vessel: Abbr.
33. Final Four game
34. Drives home, as runs
37. Yours may be a 1-Across or 71-Across
41. Perceived to be
42. Singer Bareilles
45. Something to hang your hat on
48. Record producer Brian
49. "A Lesson Before Dying" author Ernest J. ____
51. Sierra Nevada, for one
52. Pickup used by a college-area local?
55. Greek column variety
57. "You've Got a Friend ____"
58. 509 hatchlings in ancient Rome?
61. Bits of viral web content
66. On the briny
67. Oxford, e.g.
68. Some beach toys
69. Laura of "Blue Velvet"
70. In perfect condition
71. Type of 37-Across ... or a two-word hint to 18- or 58-Across

Down

1. "Don't mind if ____"
2. Cornhusker State: Abbr.
3. Rap group inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2016
4. "____ shocked ... shocked!"
5. Golf pencil's lack
6. When some lunches end
7. Horse to be broken
8. Baseballer Gehrig
9. Grade school subj.
10. It might be wild, dirty or sticky
11. Unconcerned with right and wrong
12. Greek philosophical group
13. Jab with a finger
19. ____ crab
21. Praiseful poem
23. Ernie who won the 2012 British Open
24. Fish eggs
25. Give an epidural, e.g.
26. Harvard, Yale, Brown, etc.
27. "____ Andronicus"
28. Dethrone
34. At this point
35. Lawyer's org.
36. General refusal?
38. NHL legend Brian inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in 2008
39. Fallon predecessor
40. When repeated, Mork's sign-off
43. Parks' partner, familiarly
44. Query
45. Expense intended to increase traffic?
46. Title six-year-old of literature
47. Millennial's parent
49. Little treasure
50. At the original speed, musically
53. Japanese camera
54. Many a map of Hawaii
56. "Not if ____ help it!"
59. School of thought
60. "____-Raq" (2015 Spike Lee film)
62. French quencher
63. "Good Will Hunting" sch.
64. Two-time Super Bowl MVP Manning
65. NNW's opposite

Puzzle author: David Levinson-Wilk. For answers, see page 12.

COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop. Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.

FRI, JUL 6

7:30 p.m. Brooklyn Contra Dance. If Swing and Square Dancing met in a bar, you'd get Contra. Live music, bringing a partner is not necessary. A great way to meet new people! @ Camp Friendship, 339 Eighth St., Brooklyn. \$15 General / \$12 Student / Volunteer — Dance Free. www.brooklyncontra.org.

PLEASE RETURN FOOD COOP
BOX CUTTERS AND PENS TO THE
FOOD COOP, IF YOU HAVE THEM
IN YOUR POCKETS OR AT HOME.



THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Greene Hill Food Co-op is relocating to Fulton St. and needs your support.

COMMUNICATE to family, friends, and neighbors. Help us gain more member-owners! Visit: greenehillfood.coop

If you want to **help with the move** or have a **specialized skill** such as carpentry or painting that could assist with our build out, please contact move@greenehillfood.coop

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



STRONG APPLAUSE AT GM'S OPEN FORUM

MEMBERS,

The strong applause, by a packed crowd, following each of five presentations at the May GM Open Forum, still reverberates with me. It was a memorable moment signaling strong support for "Justice for the Palestinians." Perhaps, in retrospect, not so surprising.

For weeks starting March 30 into June, on Friday, unarmed Palestinians in Gaza gathered at the separation fence with Israel to demand an end to the Israeli siege of the territory and the right of return to their pre-1948 homes in Israel (calling the protest the Great March of Return). 70% of Palestinians in Gaza are refugees.

Like clockwork, behind the barbed-wire fence, the Israeli military, dubbed "snipers" used live ammunition and tear gas against unarmed demonstrators killing more than 100 and wounding upwards of 12,000, including identifiable journalists, medics, disabled and children. There was immediate and ongoing condemnation of Israel but the military did not reverse its illegal orders to shoot unarmed Palestinian protesters. Amnesty International called it a "murderous assault" by Israel.

This horrific situation prompted a wave of new support for justice for Palestinians. High profile entertainers cancelled

their engagements in Israel including Gilberto Gil, the Brazilian music legend and Shakira, a Columbian pop music singer. When Argentina's national soccer team cancelled their "friendly" match with Israel after Israel moved the game from Haifa to Jerusalem, a team member said "not going was the right thing to do." <https://www.joe.co.uk/sport/gonzalo-higuain-says-argentina-were-right-to-cancel-friendly-against-israel-182637>

Here, at the Coop, the right thing to do is to suspend the sale of products from Israel until there is justice for the Palestinians.

For members who missed the GM and did not receive a copy of our flyer, (In)Justice for Palestine: the Food Coop's Role, check out the link to it on our website: <https://psfcbds.wordpress.com/>

Mary Buchwald

PSFC MEMBERS FOR BDS

DEAR MEMBERS,

At the General Meeting on May 29, I was one of five people from PSFC Members for BDS who spoke in the Open Forum. We traced the stark connections between Israel's flagrantly unjust treatment of Palestinians and the Coop's routine functioning. Our Coop sells Israeli products in disregard of a powerful international movement, initiated by a broad coalition of Palestinian groups, to boycott Israel until it ends its

occupation of Palestinian lands, ensures equal rights for all citizens of Israel (be they Jewish or non-Jewish), and honors the right of Palestinians to return to ancestral communities from which they or their forebears were driven (often with extreme violence) at Israel's founding. As we said at the Forum, there is a strange disparity between the willingness of the Coop's membership to embrace a variety of social justice-oriented boycotts and the silence in which this issue has recently been shrouded, whether in the pages of the *Gazette* or at the GM.

This silence is no accident; it has been imposed through the strenuous efforts of a number of people in the Coop's leadership, including General Coordinators and *Gazette* editors. Because of space limitations, I will focus on the latter. In 2015, I along with several others proposed to establish GM oversight over *Gazette* editorial policy. The GM voted down our measure and subsequently the *Gazette* announced new editorial guidelines providing for complete editorial discretion in selecting letters and Member Submissions on "topics that generate a large number of submissions...over an extended period of time." This policy has been used to banish most material dealing with Palestine and Israel from the *Gazette's* pages.

Our Open Forum comments were loudly applauded after each speaker concluded

her two-minute presentation. Many attendees thanked us for speaking out. It seems safe to assume that the depth of this response had something to do with the fact that since March 30, the Israeli military has been regularly slaughtering peacefully protesting Palestinians in Gaza (over 100 killed at the time of the GM), and injuring thousands more with live ammunition. During more than a half dozen years of work on this issue, PSFC Members for BDS has met with the argument, "We're just a grocery store—what does the Middle East situation have to do with us?" The response at the May 29th GM clearly shows that many members have a different view—one that takes seriously our Mission Statement's declaration that we oppose discrimination and seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others.

Both the appalling nature of recent news headlines and the warm response of Coop members on the 29th show that it's incumbent upon the *Gazette's* editors to end their censorship of debate regarding this urgent, rapidly evolving issue. Otherwise, we may as well scrap our Mission Statement and quit claiming to be a democratic Coop where all member viewpoints get a fair hearing.

Ian Clausen

OUR LAST GM TO THE EDITOR,

At the last General Meeting, a few of us made use of the Public Forum to express our profound concern about recent killings and the excessive use of force against civilians of Gaza. For those of us, like me, who love and support the Coop as an open and transparent place of member democracy with an abiding commitment to our Mission Statement, the past several years at the Coop have been challenging. Trying to get a referendum on boycotting Israeli products, the ban on the use of Coop meeting space on the issue, our inability to have a respectful discussion at a General Meeting, a proposal which languishes at the Agenda Committee for years ... and in those same years, a denial of basic human rights for Palestinians, the violations of international law, the maiming and killing, go on and on.

The opportunity to speak about our concerns without censure in an open forum at the last General Meeting meant a great deal. That each of our statements was in fact greeted by applause—

priceless. Thank you. An issue that has loomed so large in our Coop for so long and an issue that will not go away deserves a vote. Online voting, anyone?

Carol Wald

RECIPE: SIMPLE AND FLEXIBLE LENTIL STEW

Lentils have the virtue that, unlike most other beans, they cook in 30 minutes (or less, for red lentils) so can be used to get a meal on the table after the workday pretty quickly. And of course, they're high in fiber and protein. I've cooked this for a family of four; I've cooked it for my lonesome self when living alone in Texas and Colorado. I've felt satisfied with both the vegan and non-vegan versions. It's cheap, filling, and pretty good.

BASICS:

1/4 cup of green or brown lentils per person
1/2 cup of liquid per person: vegetable broth or water to keep it vegan, I often use chicken stock (because I always have it around)
1 carrot, diced (small one for one person, larger as you scale up)
diced celery (half stalk for one, maybe a big stalk for four)
diced onion (half a small one for one person, more as you scale up)
salt and pepper to taste (or hot sauce in place of pepper; my daughter whines if she detects any pepper, but you want something, and hot sauce just permeates the liquid without producing whining)
1 tomato, diced (small Roma for one person, scale up accordingly)
1 tsp. oil per person (1 Tbsp. for 4)

ITALIAN VERSION:

1/2 tsp. oregano
1 clove of garlic, diced

TEX-MEX VERSION:

1/2 tsp. chili powder
1/2 tsp. cumin

INDIAN VERSION:

1 tsp. garam masala

NON-VEGAN OPTION:

1 hot dog or Italian sausage per person

1. Put a small saucepan over a medium flame; add the oil, then the carrot, celery, and onion. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is translucent.

2. Add the lentils, liquid, salt and pepper (or hot sauce), and the spices (which vary by which version you want, as above). Bring to a boil, cover, turn down the heat to low, and simmer for 30 minutes.

GAZETTE EDITORIAL POLICY FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEAR COOP MEMBERS,

PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THESE RECENTLY REVISED GUIDELINES.

If a letter meets one or more of the following criteria, it will not appear in the *Linewaiters' Gazette*.

The letter or article

- is on a topic that has been covered extensively in the *Linewaiters' Gazette* and is not a matter of current Coop action
- is unsigned or does not contain the author's contact information
- exceeds the word count (500 words for letters, 750 for member articles)
- uses long, "unclickable" URLs that hinder the reader from following the letter and understanding its sources
- is primarily an advertisement for a business or service in which the writer is involved or is promoting
- contains hearsay or unsubstantiated accusations
- contains more than 25% non-original writing, is not written primarily by the stated author or is a template, chain or form letter
- is a serial submission—that is, the author (or others) may have submitted a similar version of this letter or article, or similar information to past issues of the *Gazette*
- requires editing and rewriting for clarity and coherence
- contains language that violates our policy of excluding language that is hateful, racist, sexist, discriminatory, inflammatory, personally insulting or needlessly provocative

Due to time constraints, if a letter or article meets any of the above criteria, *Gazette* editors will make no further comment nor provide any further feedback, apart from a notification that the letter won't be published. Once submitted and rejected, a letter may not be resubmitted.

The *Gazette* editors advise those writing letters and articles to study these guidelines. We regret that time will not permit us to respond to further inquiries about rejected letters or articles. The *Gazette* editors thank Coop members for understanding that the *Gazette* is a collaboration among Coop members, who use their limited work slot time to produce a publication that reflects the interests of the Coop community. Our limited resources require us to focus on articles and letters that cover issues of current interest.

In cooperation, the editors

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MADISON AVENUE HAIRCUTTER is right around the corner from the Food Coop, so if you would

like a really good haircut for a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154. I charge \$60 Wednesdays through Sundays.

THE ARTFUL DODGER is a reasonable, clean, efficient artist run company that has served NY for over 35 yrs. Everything from the initial stages of wall prep to the final coat of paint are handled with the same level of expertise. Insured. Satisfaction guaranteed! FREE estimates. 646-734-0899, eyegrease@earthlink.net

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3. NON-VEGAN OPTION: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Rub the hot dogs or sausages with oil. Put them in a cast-iron skillet. Throw them in the oven. Let them bake for 20 minutes, turning halfway through. Transfer them to your cutting board once cooked, and slice into 1/4-inch rounds.

4. When the lentils have cooked for 30 minutes, remove the lid, and check the liquid. If there's still a lot, you may need to turn the heat to high and cook to reduce it a bit. It's okay if there's a little broth, but you don't want it soupy. Also check for salt, pepper, and spices, and add to taste if you like.

5. Remove from the heat. Stir in the diced tomato and (if using) the hot dog or sausage. Serve in bowls.

This plus a salad, or a nice loaf of bread with any of cheese, butter, or olive oil mixed with rosemary, salt, and pepper, is a meal.

Greg Costikyan

Coop Job Opening: Receiving Coordinator Evenings/Weekends

Description:

All Receiving Coordinators ensure the smooth functioning of the Coop.

- Facilitate and supervise continual stocking of the store
- Train working members how to stock and complete projects
- Communicate with Squad Leaders and squads about priorities
- Sustain knowledge about products and inventory
- Answer members' questions
- Respond to physical plant and refrigeration issues

Evening/Weekend Receiving Coordinators are generalists who work with members to maintain and restock all aisles including produce. They also oversee late deliveries, inspect for dates/quality, and support the Receiving and Food Processing squads.

The ideal candidate will:

- enjoy working with people and crowds
- be an excellent team player with strong communication skills
- have ability to teach, explain procedures, give feedback
- be able to evaluate Coop needs, prioritize tasks and delegate work
- be comfortable with computers (Macs preferred)
- experience working in a grocery store is a plus

Hours: 38 hours. 5 days per week including both Saturdays and Sundays.

Wages: \$28.12/hour

Benefits: A generous package including but not limited to: 3 weeks vacation, 11 Health/Personal days, health insurance, and a pension plan.

Requirements:

Candidates must be current members of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least six months immediately prior to application.

Applicants must be prepared to work during holidays, the Coop's busiest times.

Applicants must be able to:

- lift up to 50 pounds
- reach, crouch, bend, stand, climb stairs and work for hours in walk-in coolers and freezers
- work with and around common allergens including nuts and dust
- work in noisy, hectic surroundings

How to Apply:

We strongly encourage candidates to work one Saturday or Sunday afternoon Receiving shift. Please introduce yourself as an applicant to one of the Receiving Coordinators.

Attach resume and cover letter as a single document at the link below:

<http://bit.do/receivingcoordinator042618>

Applicants will receive acknowledgment of application via email. Do not call the Membership Office to check on the status of application. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until position is filled. If you applied to a previous Coop job offering, please re-submit your materials.

We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

To Submit Classified or Display Ads:

Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, display ads at \$30. (Classified ads in the "Merchandise-Non-commercial" category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form. Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2" x 3.5" horizontal).

Submission forms are available in a wallpocket near the elevator in the entrance lobby.

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ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH TINT

Candidates for Board of Directors of the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc.

Two three-year terms on the Board are open.

To vote you may use a proxy or attend the Food Coop Annual Meeting on June 26, 2018.

Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May.

You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates at the June 26 Annual Meeting. Candidate statements follow.

Sukey Tamarkin

My name is Sukey Tamarkin and I am running for a seat on the Coop Board. I currently work FTOP, and have been a Coop member for 24 years.

The skills I bring to this position are the ones honed from my 20 years as a public-school librarian. I am trained and expertly skilled to listen objectively to the information needs of the diverse community represented by a public institution, and to deliver the best information sources to solve constituent problems and requests. This professional expertise in keeping an open, non-judgmental mind while listening to an incredible diversity of views in order to bring the best information to assist in decision-making, would serve the Coop's General Meeting very well.

My long and continuous membership with the Coop affords my candidacy the authority of experience: I have worked in nearly every capacity throughout the store, receiving, and membership office. I have witnessed the

growth of the Coop from a tiny store with an extremely limited inventory a membership of maybe 3,000; to a fully stocked grocery that can rival with its offerings the corporate behemoths surrounding us, and a membership five times the size of when I first joined. Half my life has been spent as a Coop member. Throughout this I have come to realize that beyond our commitment to a cooperative business practice, there exists no monolith lens in which to view the Coop: we are many things to our many members. Each of us brings our talents, experiences, hopes, and expectations to our work here. It is both what makes us a strong business with a diverse talent pool from which to draw, as well as a messy and at times contentious organization grappling with the trials of human experience to hash out our differences together to propel our business forward.

I believe in the process we have for Board functioning in which the General Meeting, open to all members, is the mechanism by which Coop decision-making occurs. The Board takes its advice from the General

Meeting, while retaining an independent fiduciary duty to ensure that no General Meeting decision causes immediate and irreparable harm to the Coop's financial and legal obligations. I like to think of our Board's independent decision-making authority as one would a smoke detector—necessary to prevent a possible fire, but not likely to be used. While it is possible that the General Meeting could reach a decision that would cause immediate and irreparable harm to the Coop's financial and legal obligations, it is highly unlikely to happen. Thus while we are legally bound to have a functioning Board, our particular method to “crowd-source” Coop decisions through the General Meeting, and to use the Board as the affirming body of this process, represents our best intentions to create a fully cooperative and democratic business.

I chose not to include my photo as I believe the unconscious bias we may bring to how we perceive someone's looks should not inform Board candidacy. The Coop's General Coordinators endorse my candidacy. ■

Rachel Asher



I am writing to seek re-election on the Board of Directors at the Park Slope Food Coop for my first three-year term. Raised by a Food Coop founder and worker, I grew up appreciating the importance of having access to affordable, locally farmed products and working with a community towards a common vision.

I'm proud to continue that legacy as your board member. Over the last two years, I have listened to and respected the interests of the membership while protecting the Coop's mission. If re-elected, I pledge to continue my commitment to you, the membership, and to the Coop as an organization.

I hope to be a voice for the next generation of Coop leadership as we look toward the future, while remaining committed to bridging the gap between the members who built this institution, committing decades to ensuring its survival. As an employee at The Legal Aid Society, I am particularly sensitive to the needs of low-income members who are experiencing the economic strains of finding afford-

able housing while facing stagnant wages and an unrelenting cost of living. More than ever before, we need access to the Coop's high-quality food and sense of community. I hope, during my tenure, to be a voice for members who are not always heard—those of us who work multiple jobs, live with roommates out of necessity, or have new ideas to improve the Coop and make it more accessible and friendly to future members and leaders. Let's work together to find solutions to our challenges as they arise, and leverage our perspectives to envision the Coop's future together.

Rachel lives in Park Slope with her partner Erica, a Shopping Squad Leader, and their rescue dog Charlie. ■


THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following members for referring friends who joined the Coop in the last four weeks.

Have you lost something valuable?

Perhaps you lost it at the Park Slope Food Coop!

Come up to the Membership Office to reclaim your valuables.



Crossword Answers

I	N	N	I	E		A	B	L	E		R	A	S	P	
D	E	W	A	R		T	R	O	N		I	M	T	O	
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Shelby Keefer

Dasha Kondratiev

Loretta Laurendi

Johan Leahing

Ned Lochaya

Roopal Luhana

Curtis March

Miriam

Henrik Moltke

Angela Morris

Nancy

Sarah Ngu

Patricia

Gus R.

James Ray

Sarah Ray

Isabel Rodriguez

Rosie

Raphael Ruttenberg

Sam

Gerard Scarnato

Nikko Sedgwick

Lida Shao

Karen Short

Samuel Sontag

Martin Sulkow

Abishekkha Sundaram

Sydney

Ryan Tate

Amy Thogmartin

Adriaan van der Plas

Yana Wagg

Eleonore Weill

Anna White

David White

Lucy Wild

Olivia Williamson

Kaylynn Wong

Sharone Yaron

Michael Zelenko