

## **Minutes of the Tuesday, October 31, 2023 Park Slope Food Coop General Meeting**

The monthly General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop was held at the Prospect Park Picnic House on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, beginning at 7:10 p.m. Several weeks beforehand, an announcement about the scheduled meeting and the agenda were posted on the PSFC website, foodcoop.com, inviting members to participate. Meeting materials were made available to all Coop members by email before the meeting, as well as being screen projected during the meeting. During the discussion of agenda item 3, the meeting voted to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. Chair Committee members Charlie Rogers and David Moss acted as chair and chair secretary.

### **Open Forum**

Members discussed issues surrounding the failed March 27, 2012 GM proposal item on holding a referendum to decide whether or not the Coop would join the BDS movement.

### **Financial Report and General Coordinators' Reports**

General Manager and treasurer Joe Holtz presented a financial report, referring to notes and statements for the 36-week period ending 10/8/23. General Coordinator Lisa Moore made a report which included the status of restarting childcare, holiday products and store hours changes due to a staff party and the holidays. Joe Holtz presented the first annual report on the base mark-up percentage for the next fiscal year. The meeting discussed the reports.

### **Agenda item 1 – Proposal – Masking Hours at Coop to Protect Medically Vulnerable Members**

Member Kristina Bassi presented the proposal item and the members discussed it. During debate, an amendment was raised by IT Coordinator John McNally: to authorize a referendum on the issue, which failed, with 54 yes and 62 no votes. Another amendment was raised by Member George Olken: to limit the mask requirement to the shopping floor, which succeeded when no one in attendance objected to it. A ballot vote on the proposal, shown below, succeeded, with 70 yes and 52 no votes.

*The Park Slope Food Coop requires masking for workers, shoppers, and staff on the shopping floor on the same 2 days each week to make the Coop accessible and safe for our medically vulnerable, immune compromised, and disabled member-owners.*

### **Agenda item 2 – Agenda Committee Election**

Agenda Committee (AC) member David Warren presented statements of three AC members running for reelection: Allie Esslinger, Kate Spota and Dominique Bravo, none of whom were in attendance. The meeting voted by ballot to reelect all of them to 3-year terms on the AC. Election results: Dominique Bravo – 86 yes, 13 no; Allie Esslinger – 87 yes, 11 no; Kate Spota – 84 yes, 14 no.

**Agenda item 3 – Discussion – To present clarification of which committees should be under the purview of the Committee Oversight Committee (COC). What are the COC’s investigative powers?**

Membership Coordinator Jana Cunningham introduced the item and the members discussed it. Below is the description of the item as it appeared in the agenda announcement:

*There are two points that need to be clarified:*

*1. The COC was empowered to supervise committee reporting requirements, including scheduling updates and tracking work credit. Some of the Coop Initiative Committees are less transparent and may benefit from the assistance of the COC. However, there are many committees that are directly under staff supervision whose attendance and work are already accounted for and don't need additional oversight.*

*2. Is the COC empowered to investigate other committees? To what end? Or were they commissioned to assist new and current committees with structure and scheduling reports to the Membership?*

**Presentation of Minutes**

Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier presented the minutes of the September 26, 2023 General Meeting, which were approved by general consent.

**Board of Directors' Meeting**

Shayna Moliver chaired the Board of Directors' meeting. Four board members were present: Joe Holtz, Shayna Moliver, Imani Q'ryn and Brandon West. Tim Hospodar and Viren Mehta were absent. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the minutes of the September 26, 2023 General Meeting. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 1, Masking at Coop to Protect Medically Vulnerable Members. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 2, Agenda Committee Election.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.



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Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary  
Park Slope Food Coop  
Brooklyn, NY  
November 13, 2023  
(Approved by the November 28, 2023 PSFC GM)