

Minutes of the Tuesday, October 27, 2020 Park Slope Food Coop General Meeting

The monthly General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, beginning at 7:08 p.m., and was conducted using the internet communications platform Zoom. All votes were taken using Simply Voting software. Several weeks beforehand, an announcement about the scheduled meeting and the agenda was posted on the PSFC website, foodcoop.com, inviting members to sign up to attend and participate. A Zoom link to the meeting, along with a revised agenda, financial statements and the draft September 29, 2020 Annual Meeting and General Meeting minutes, were sent by email to members about 6:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. A separate email with the Simply Voting link and password was sent to meeting attendees around the same time. At 7:20 p.m. chair committee member David Moss announced that 169 members were in attendance at that point in the meeting.

Chair Committee Introduction to the Meeting

The meeting chair Josef Szende introduced the meeting format and explained the protocol for asking questions and making comments. Chair Committee member Charlie Rogers explained the process of voting. Chair Committee member Maribeth Batcha assisted as chair secretary.

Reports from the General Coordinators

General Manager/General Coordinator/Treasurer Joe Holtz addressed the meeting to present two financial reports, which had been made available to attendees via email and by shared screen via Zoom; a 36-week statement along with statement highlights for the period ending 10/11/20, and a statement reflecting financial changes between 9/13/20 and 10/11/20 (last 4 weeks). The chair opened the floor for member questions on the financial reports. General Coordinator Ann Herpel addressed the meeting to present a report on the phased return of the Member Labor system, which began on 10/22/20. Ann also gave a brief report on the current wait time for members coming to shop. General Coordinator Joe Szladek addressed the meeting to present a report on the temporary price mark-up increase, which began on 10/13/20. General Coordinator Elinoar Astrinsky addressed the meeting to present a produce and food report and information about the firehouse memorial located on Coop property.

Agenda item 1 – Annual Agenda Committee Election

Agenda Committee member Pirco Wolfframm addressed the meeting to introduce the item. Agenda Committee member Cynthia Payne addressed the meeting, requesting re-election. A statement from Agenda Committee member Michael Katzenellenbogen (who was not in attendance) requesting re-election was read aloud. The chair opened the floor for questions of the candidates. The meeting voted to re-elect Cynthia Payne to a 2-year term on the Agenda Committee, with 102 votes in favor and 5 votes against. The meeting voted to re-elect Michael Katzenellenbogen to a 2-year term on the Agenda Committee, with 95 votes in favor and 10 against.

Agenda item 2 – Annual Dispute Resolution Committee Election

Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) member Daniel Weiss addressed the meeting to introduce the item and to request re-election. Daniel read a statement from DRC member Karen Kramer (who was not in attendance), requesting re-election. DRC member Helen Koh addressed the meeting to request re-election. Helen read a statement from DRC member Michael Szeto (who was not in attendance), requesting re-election. The chair opened the floor to questions of the candidates. The meeting voted to re-elect Helen Koh to a 2-year term on the DRC, with 104 in favor and 4 against. The meeting voted to re-elect Daniel Weiss to a 2-year term on the DRC, with 104 in favor and 4 against. The meeting voted to re-elect Karen Kramer to a 2-year term on the DRC, with 103 in favor and 6 against. The meeting voted to re-elect Michael Szeto to a 2-year term on the DRC, with 103 in favor and 4 against.

Agenda item 3 – Discussion: An Audit of Member Well Being To Be Undertaken with the Immediate Formation of a Voluntary Team

Member Marion Yuen addressed the meeting to introduce the item, referring to a shared screen presentation. The chair opened the floor, first to technical questions and then to discussion.

Agenda item 4 – Discussion: General Meeting Involvement in Coop Survival Issues

General Manager Joe Holtz addressed the meeting to introduce the item, referring to a shared screen presentation. The chair opened the floor, first to technical questions and then to discussion.

Motion to extend meeting

The chair opened the floor to a vote on extending the meeting for 30 minutes, which succeeded, with 69 in favor and 17 against.


Presentation of Minutes

The chair opened the floor to Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier who, referring to the prepared minutes of the September 29, 2020 Annual and General Meetings, requested any corrections.

Board of Directors' Meeting

The chair opened the floor for the Board of Directors' meeting, chaired by Rachel Asher. All board members were present: Rachel Asher, Joe Holtz, Bill Penner, Imani Q'ryn, Susannah Tamarkin and Allen Zimmerman. All members of the board voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the minutes of the September 29, 2020 Annual and General Meetings. All members of the board voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the annual Agenda Committee and Dispute Resolution Committee elections.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 9:33 p.m.



Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary
Park Slope Food Coop
Brooklyn, NY
October 29, 2020

(Approved by the December 1, 2020 PSFC GM)