

## **Minutes of the Tuesday, January 30, 2024 Park Slope Food Coop General Meeting**

The monthly General Meeting (GM) of the Park Slope Food Coop (PSFC) was held at the Prospect Park Picnic House on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, beginning at 7:10 p.m. A few 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. Voting for both proposals was done using paper ballots. Chair Committee members Dan Hegwood and Charlie Rogers served as chair and secretary.

### **Open Forum**

Several members who identified themselves as PSFC Members for Palestine spoke on the topic of a GM in-person, remote or hybrid discussion and vote on whether to boycott Israeli products. Other members spoke on issues surrounding this topic, as well.

### **Financial Report and General Coordinators' (GC) Reports**

Before launching into the financial report, General Manager, GC and treasurer Joe Holtz provided information on what issues surround PSFC in locating a meeting space in which to discuss the topic of boycotting Israeli products, and the status of the current search to do so. Joe then presented a financial report, referring to notes and statements for the 48-week period ending 12/31/23. GC Lisa Moore made a report which included an update on the search for insurance for childcare and a reminder on the Coop's new facemask policy. The meeting discussed the reports.

### **Committee Reports**

Cooking Class Squad member Jeff Bonar presented a report for his committee.

### **Agenda item 1 – Proposal –To dissolve the Committee Oversight Committee (COC)**

Membership Coordinator Jana Cunningham presented the item and, after discussion and debate, members came out in favor of the proposal below, with 84 yes votes and 34 no votes.

- 1. The Committee Oversight Committee (COC) was established with these four ideas: (1) It would reduce Coop staff work time; (2) Have each committee's mission statement displayed on the website; (3) Assist committees with reporting requirements; and (4) Track workslot credit.*
- 2. Since their inception, we've seen that the scope of the COC was too broad. While they have gotten most committees' mission statements on the website, they have not saved staff work time or tracked workslot credits. They have, however, acted outside of their mandate by claiming investigative powers and "fielding complaints from members".*
- 3. Given that the COC cannot save Coop staff time or track workslot credits, and there are other means the committee reporting requirements can be met, I ask the GM to dissolve the COC.*

**Agenda item 2 – Proposal – To amend age for joining the Coop and the definition of Coop household**

General Manager Joe Holtz presented the item and, after discussion and debate, members came out in favor of the proposal below, with 69 yes votes and 50 no votes.

- *An adult is a person who has reached the age of 22 years.*
- *All adults in a household are required to join the Coop and fulfill all membership requirements. A household is a group of adults who share food and other products purchased at the Coop.*
- *All adults in a familial relationship who reside at the same address for any portion of the calendar year must join the Coop. There are no exceptions. Familial relationships include but are not limited to: spouses, domestic partners, “significant others,” children/step-children, including adult children, and parents.*
- *Any person between 18 and 22 who wants to join the Coop will be allowed to join and enjoy the benefits of Coop membership. However, they will be exempt from the work requirement until they reach the age of 22.*
- *These definitions replace all previous definitions approved by the General Meeting.*

**Presentation of Minutes**

Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier presented the minutes of the November 28, 2023 GM, which were approved by general consent.

**Board of Directors’ Meeting**

Tim Hospodar chaired the Board of Directors’ meeting. Four board members were present: Joe Holtz, Tim Hospodar, Imani Q’ryn and Brandon West. Viren Mehta and Shayna Moliver were absent. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the minutes of the November 28, 2023 GM. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 1, to dissolve the Committee Oversight Committee (COC). All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 2, to amend age for joining the Coop and the definition of Coop household.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.



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Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary  
Park Slope Food Coop  
Brooklyn, NY  
February 2, 2024  
(Approved by the February 27, 2024 PSFC GM)