

## **Minutes of the Tuesday, August 27, 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, August 27, 2024, beginning at 7:08 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. Chair Committee members Maribeth Batcha and David Moss served as chair and secretary.

### **Open Forum**

Topics raised by members included possible agenda items that involve amending the Coop's bylaws, and suggestions concerning the GM's land acknowledgement to the Lenape people, usually made at the beginning of every meeting.

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

Treasurer, GC & General Manager Joe Holtz presented a financial report, referring to notes and statements for the 24-weeks period ending 7/14/24. GC Joe Szladek made a report, which included news on produce, a new olive oil produced by an Argentinian cooperative, staff comings and goings, and the anticipated uptick in shopping and work activity at the store starting after Labor Day. The meeting discussed the reports.

### **Committee Reports**

International Trade Education Committee (ITES) member Bart DeCoursey made a report concerning a soon-to-be published *Linewaiters' Gazette* article authored by an ITES member.

### **Agenda item 1 – Discussion: Coop Referendum on Mask Mandate**

Member David Bartner introduced his idea, referring to the item description published in the distributed agenda announcement and copied below in italics. The meeting discussed the idea and related issues for one hour.

*Masking at the Coop should be voluntary and not required on two days per week as decided at the October 2023 General Meeting. Any future decision to require masking must be decided by a referendum distributed to all eligible Coop members.*

*Text of the proposed referendum:*

- *Yes, I agree masking should be voluntary, and any future decision on masking should be decided by referendum.*
- *No, I do not agree that masking should be voluntary. The Coop should maintain its current masking policy.*

### **Presentation of Minutes**

Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier presented the minutes of the July 30, 2024 GM, which were approved by general consent.

**Board of Directors' Meeting**

Tess Brown-Lavoie chaired the Board of Directors' meeting. Five board members were present: Tess Brown-Lavoie, Joe Holtz, Tim Hospodar, Keyian Vafai and Brandon West. Imani Q'ryn was absent. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the minutes of the July 30, 2024 GM.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.



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Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary  
Park Slope Food Coop  
Brooklyn, NY  
August 28, 2024  
(Approved by the September 24, 2024 PSFC GM)