

Minutes of the Tuesday, December 3, 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, December 3, 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. Chair Committee members Charlie Rogers and Daniel Hegwood served as chair and secretary.

Open Forum

Issues raised by members included queries and criticisms on how GM agenda items are scheduled by the Agenda Committee, requests for updates on the “Coop Deals” pilot, the home delivery pilot and when special ordering will be possible again, reasons why banning products might hurt the Coop, and the legacy of the Coop as an organization that is welcoming to an economically and culturally diverse membership. The meeting discussed the open forum items.

Financial Report and General Coordinators’ (GC) Reports

General Manager, GC and treasurer Joe Holtz presented a financial report, referring to notes and statements for the 40-week period ending 11/3/24. Joe also discussed what it means for the Coop when a board member does not vote to accept the advice of membership on an item raised during the board meeting, referring to the Coop bylaws and “The Role of the Board of Directors,” by John Sandercock as updated by Michael Salgo, found in section VII of the PSFC Membership Manual. GC Ann Herpel spoke to membership comments and concerns about proper notice not being given to members when a seat becomes open on a committee. GC Joe Szladek gave a rundown of the numbers of Thanksgiving products that flew out the door in the week before the holiday, and reported on the “Coop Deals” pilot and a new inventory system the Coop is beginning to use. The meeting discussed the reports.

Committee Reports

Rob Price of the Fun Committee described the committee’s activities and announced an upcoming PSFC members’ Happy Hour.

Agenda item 1 – Election: Personnel Committee

Personnel Committee members Valerie Vadala and Steve Jenkins introduced Member Jerome Barth, who the committee had nominated for a seat on the committee. Jerome addressed the meeting and answered questions. The meeting voted by paper ballot. Election results: Jerome Barth was elected to a 3-year term on the Personnel Committee, having received 97 yes votes and 10 no votes.

Agenda item 2 – Proposal: Approve a Feasibility Study for the Return of the Print Gazette

Member Alex Godin presented the item and the meeting discussed and revised it before Alex made a motion, “Requesting to have the Linewaiters’ Gazette team to form a short-term committee for workslot credit of up to 6 members, selected by but not limited to Alex Godin and members of the current Linewaiters’ Gazette team to report on options, logistics, and constraints to bring back the print edition within 1 year.” A vote by ballot was held. The proposal passed with 88 yes votes and 25 no votes.

Presentation of Minutes

Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier presented the minutes of the October 29, 2024 GM, which were approved by general consent.

Board of Directors' Meeting

Tess Brown-Lavoie chaired the Board of Directors' meeting. Four board members were present: Tess Brown-Lavoie, Joe Holtz, Tim Hospodar and Brandon West. Imani Q'ryn and Keyian Vafai and were absent. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the minutes of the October 29, 2024 GM. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on item #1, Personnel Committee Election. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on item #2, Feasibility Study on Return of Print Gazette.

The meeting concluded at 8:58 p.m.



Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary
Park Slope Food Coop
Brooklyn, NY
December 5, 2024
(Approved by the January 28, 2025 PSFC GM)