

Minutes of the Tuesday, August 26, 2025 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 26, 2025, beginning at 7:05 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

Members raised various topics and the meeting discussed them.

General Coordinators' (GC) Reports and Treasurer's Report

General Manager and treasurer Joe Szladek spoke to a topic raised during open forum regarding the number of members allowed to receive workslot credit for attending a General Meeting. Then, referring to a projected slide show, Joe made the financial report for the 24-week period ending 07/20/25, which had been distributed to members via email before the meeting. Meat and prepared foods buyer Masha Bezlepkina made a report on the farms she recently visited that supply the Coop with meat. The meeting discussed the reports.

Committee Reports

International Trade Education Committee (ITES) member Bart DeCoursy made a report concerning tariffs. Personnel Committee member Jerome Barth made a report on the recent "onboarding process" that was carried out for the new Coop General Manager. The meeting discussed the reports.

Agenda item 1 – Election – Linewaiters' Gazette Co-Coordinating Editors

Gazette Selection Committee (GSC) members Cynthia Lawson, Petra Lewis and Leila Darabi spoke on the reason for the election and introduced Eric Baldwin, one of the three co-coordinating editor candidates the GSC recommended for the positions. Eric first addressed the meeting on his own behalf and then read aloud the candidate statements of Lily Rothman and Whitney Curry Wimbish, the other two member candidates. After member discussion, the meeting voted by paper ballot, and elected all three candidates to co-coordinating editorship of the Linewaiters' Gazette. Below are the election results.

<i>Linewaiters' Gazette co-coordinating editor candidate</i>	Yes votes	No votes
Eric Baldwin	139	0
Lily Rothman	136	4
Whitney Curry Wimbish	126	15

Agenda item 2 – Proposal – PSFC Treasurer Position Eligibility Requirements

Bookkeeping Coordinator Terry Meyers, Receiving Coordinator Gillian Chi, and Membership Coordinators Jana Cunningham and Yuwie Tantipech introduced the proposal and the meeting discussed it. Terry made a motion, "For the well-being of the Coop, any candidate for the position of Treasurer of the Park Slope Food Coop must, at the time of the election, be an upper-level management staff person who is chiefly responsible for the financial operations of the Coop. This modifies the language in the Park Slope Food Coop Guide to the General and Annual Meetings," which was seconded. During debate, member John Alexander motioned "to amend this proposal to

make this proposal an amendment to our bylaws,” which was seconded, and passed by a show of raised hands. After further debate, the meeting voted by paper ballot in favor of the proposal printed below, with 97 yes votes and 35 no votes.

For the well-being of the Coop, any candidate for the position of Treasurer of the Park Slope Food Coop must, at the time of the election, be an upper-level management staff person who is chiefly responsible for the financial operations of the Coop. This modifies the language in the Park Slope Food Coop Guide to the General and Annual Meetings and amends the Park Slope Food Coop bylaws.

Agenda item 3 – Proposal – Starting a “Childcare Solutions Committee” to explore equitable options in place of in-house childcare

As the agenda item sponsors were not in attendance at the meeting, the item was tabled.

Presentation of Minutes

Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier presented the minutes of the July 29, 2025 GM for meeting approval. A member requested a change to the open forum section. The revised minutes will be brought back to the September 2025 GM for approval.

Board of Directors’ Meeting

Board member Brandon West made comments. Chair committee members and board members discussed the possibility of transitioning GMs to a hybrid format, due to the recent Coop referendum vote results and the legal opinion received in May 2025 that changing the GM format does not need to be entered into the Coop bylaws. Tess Brown-Lavoie chaired the meeting. Five board members were present: Tess Brown-Lavoie, Lynn Husum, Joe Szladek, Keyian Vafai and Brandon West. Tim Hospodar was not in attendance. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 1: Election of *Linewaiters’ Gazette* Co-Coordinating Editors. All members of the board present voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 2: PSFC Treasurer Position Eligibility Requirements.

The meeting concluded at 9:16 p.m.



Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary
Park Slope Food Coop
Brooklyn, NY

September 11, 2025

(Approved, as amended, by the August 30, 2025 PSFC GM)