

Minutes of the Tuesday, September 30, 2025 Park Slope Food Coop General Meeting
(to be presented for approval at the next General Meeting)

The monthly General Meeting (GM) of the Park Slope Food Coop (PSFC) was held at the Prospect Park Picnic House on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 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. A few days prior to the meeting, this agenda was revised and reposted to the website. The revised agenda included a separate agenda for part 6, the board meeting held at the close of every GM. Meeting materials were made available to all Coop members by email before the meeting. Chair Committee members Charlie Rogers and Josef Szende 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 topics and questions raised during open forum. Then, referring to a projected slide show, Joe made the financial report for the 32-week period ending 09/14/25, which had been distributed to members via email before the meeting. GC Matt Hoagland made a report concerning recurring workslots. GC Elinoar Astrinsky made a report concerning the impact of tariffs on products carried by the Coop. The meeting discussed the reports.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Agenda item 1 – Discussion – Financial Advisory Committee

Member Michael Freedman-Schnapps, who had circulated to membership a full description of his idea prior to the meeting, presented the item and the members discussed it.

Agenda item 2 – Proposal – Starting a “Childcare Solutions Committee” to explore equitable options in place of in-house Childcare

Member Brian Russ introduced the item. After member discussion, Brian moved, “We want permission for a two-year committee to research measures to alleviate the stresses and logistical challenges of scheduling and completing shifts for members who are parents or caregivers of children under 13,” which was seconded. Elinoar Astrinsky made a motion to amend the proposal to substitute “one-year committee” for “two-year committee”. This amendment received an almost unanimous hand count in favor and was adopted. The proposal, “We want permission for a one-year committee to research measures to alleviate the stresses and logistical challenges of scheduling and completing shifts for members who are parents or caregivers of children under 13” was approved by the meeting with a paper ballot vote of 101 yes votes and 25 no votes.

Agenda item 3 – Election – Hearing Administration Committee (HAC)

HAC member Dominique Bravo introduced HAC candidate Matt Cecil, who addressed the meeting. Matt was approved for a three year term on the HAC, in a paper ballot election with 104 yes votes and 12 no votes.

Agenda item 4 – Election – Hearing Officer Committee (HOC)

HOC member Catherine McCaw addressed the meeting to summarize the work of the committee. Catherine then spoke on behalf of HOC member Andrea Hirshman, who was not in attendance at the meeting, but was up for reelection. HOC members Marian Hertz and Liam Malanaphy each addressed the meeting as HOC reelection candidates. Marian spoke on behalf of HOC reelection candidate Julie

Vasady Kovacs. After member discussion, the meeting voted by paper ballot, and reelected all four candidates to the HOC. Below are the election results.

HOC candidate	Yes votes	No votes
Marian Hertz	108	8
Andrea Hirshman	104	10
Julie Vasady Kovacs	104	10
Liam Malanaphy	108	9

Presentation of Minutes

Coop secretary Elizabeth Tobier presented the minutes of the July 29, 2025 GM, which were approved by general consent, and the minutes of the August 26, 2025 minutes, which were approved as amended.

Board of Directors' Meeting

All board members were present: Tess Brown-Lavoie, Tim Hospodar, Lynn Husum, Joe Szladek, Keyian Vafai and Brandon West. The board members chatted amongst themselves at the front of the room for a few minutes before starting their meeting.

Item 1: Hybrid General Meetings (Discussion and Vote)

From the GM agenda announcement:

"A discussion about advice received from the membership on Agenda Item 884, a proposal for hybrid meetings, which received 66.43% vote in favor. Hybrid meetings only required a simple majority to pass, but the agenda item was listed as an amendment due to a misunderstanding. The referendum received more votes than any proposal in our Coop's history. In this light, the board will discuss whether to implement hybrid meetings."

Brandon chaired the meeting. Keyian spoke about the reasons for the proposal and then moved, "I elect to accept the members' advice on the proposal which received a 66.43% vote. The reason it wasn't adopted was because it was written as a bylaws amendment, but it was concluded it only needed a simple majority to pass," which was seconded and debated. By a raised hand vote, Tess, Tim, Keyian and Brandon voted in favor, Lynn voted against, and Joe abstained. All members of the board voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the July 29, 2025 GM minutes. All members of the board voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on the August 26, 2025 GM minutes. All members of the board voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 2: Starting a Childcare Solutions Committee. All members of the board voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 3: Hearing Administration Committee Election. All members of the board voted in favor of accepting the advice of the members on agenda item 4: Hearing Officer Committee Election.

The meeting concluded at 9:40 p.m.



Elizabeth Tobier, Secretary
Park Slope Food Coop
Brooklyn, NY
October 2, 2025