

MEETING MINUTES

January 24, 2024

5:30 p.m. Lebanon Conference Room, Lebanon, NH

Present: Mary Lou Aleskie, Nick Clark, Tracey Cutter, Eric DeLuca, Jessica Giordani, Conicia (CJ) Jackson, Peggy O’Neil, Eileen O’Toole, Orin Pacht, Cate Tierney

Absent: Lynn Ellen Schimoler, Jennifer Tietz

Employees: Amanda Charland (General Manager), April Harkness (ESG Program Manager), Allan Reetz (Director of Public & Government Affairs), Rebecca White (Public & Government Affairs Associate)

Guests: Shaun Mullholland (City Manager, City of Lebanon)

Members: Infiniti Sanderfer (potential board candidate)

Board President Nick Clark called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Consent Agenda: November 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes, Monthly Share Redemptions.

MOTION: Orin Pacht moved to accept the Consent Agenda with the addition a discussion of the Annual Meeting schedule. Eric DeLuca seconded the motion.

VOTED: 10 in favor. 0 opposed. The motion passed.

The Board decided to hold the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Hanover Consumer Cooperative Society, Inc. on Tuesday, April 2, from 5-7 p.m. Location TBD.

Member Input

None.

Monitoring

EL 5 – Community Engagement

Amanda Charland presented EL 5 – Community Engagement as in compliance.

MOTION: Orin Pacht moved to assess EL 5 – Community Engagement as providing a reasonable interpretation and sufficient evidence of compliance. Eric Deluca seconded the motion.

VOTED: 10 in favor. 0 opposed. The motion passed.

City of Lebanon

City Manager Shaun Mullholland shared some statistics and new proposals shaping up in Lebanon.

- Population of the City is approximately 16,000
- Housing is the #1 issue for the City
- Several new housing projects are approved
- Lebanon has the highest housing costs in NH along with Hanover
- Child care is #2 issue
- Look at new at Lebanon's Strategic Plan
- Lebanon is looking at pattern zoning (already being implemented in North Carolina)
- City of Lebanon would be active in building their own houses to address the shortfall
- City is undertaking a public health needs assessment – they'd like to partner with Co-op on this – join the stakeholder sessions, partner on programs w/ other community partners like LISTEN
- As a Co-op, we should show up and speak out about housing, child care. As a larger anchor, business, people will listen.

Monitoring

EL 6 – Environmental Impact

Amanda Charland presented EL 6 – Environmental Impact as in compliance with the exception of EL 6.2.2 (not making enough progress toward our zero waste goal).

MOTION: Orin Pacht moved to assess EL 6 – Environmental Impact as providing a reasonable interpretation and sufficient evidence of compliance with the exception of EL 6.2.2. Eric Deluca seconded the motion.

VOTED: 10 in favor. 0 opposed. The motion passed.

Bylaw Revisions

- Article IV Section V

MOTION: Nick Clark moves to approve the revision to Article IV Section V of the proposed Bylaw revisions and to put on the ballot this year. Orin Pacht seconded the motion.

VOTED: 10 in favor. 0 opposed. The motion passed.

Other Bylaws proposals – the following questions are to be put to the attorney and referred to Bylaws Committee to carry the work forward:

1. Create a plan and process for Co-op employees be gifted/donated member shares as part of their benefit package.
2. Create three (3) employee seats on the Board.
3. Share redemptions – authorize the General Manager to approve monthly share redemptions up to \$10,000 without Board approval.
4. 6A – remove leftover language from B-shares.
5. Changing “members” to “member-owners”.

MOTION: Nick Clark moves to put on the ballot an amendment to the Bylaws to allow three (3) employee member seats on the Board of Directors. Cate Tierney seconded the motion.

VOTED: 9 in favor. 1 opposed (Eric DeLuca). The motion passed.

MOTION: Nick Clark moves to put on the ballot an amendment to change “members” to “member-owners” in the Bylaws pending the legal review by the attorney. Mary Lou Aleskie seconded the motion.

VOTED; 10 in favor. 0 opposed. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

April Harkness
ESG Program Manager

Orin Pacht
Board Secretary