

Sitka Food Co-op

Meeting Minutes from the First Annual Membership Meeting

September 24, 2012, 5:30pm, Rasmussen Center, Sitka Fine Arts/SJ Campus

Attendees:

Interim Board of Directors

Members/observers present

1. Greeting and History of Sitka Food Co-op
Ann Betty provided a summary of how the Sitka Food Co-op effort started and the long-term goal of opening a storefront. For the time being, bulk ordering is the focus as the group builds membership and capital.
2. Member Pledge Sign-up
Only members can vote on the Bylaws and Board of Directors. Therefore, those interested in participating in this meeting's voting process were required to pledge to become members, with actual payment of the membership fee due by January 1, 2013. A sign-up sheet was passed around and 20 people pledged to become members.
3. Read over Bylaws
Keith Nyitray explained the process for reviewing and amending the Bylaws. The Bylaws were then read through section by section, and those sections that needed work were discussed. The following sections were amended:
 - IV. Membership, Section 4.2 Member Rights and Benefits, Items f. and g.
 - VI. Voting, Section 6.2 Mail Voting
 - VII. Board of Directors, Section 8.1 General Powers and Item m.
 - IX. Report to the Membership and Items a. through d. with one Item added.
 - XII. Dissolution, Item b.
4. Explanation of Voting Procedures
The procedures for voting on the Bylaws were explained.
5. Open Floor for discussion
Discussion occurred during the Bylaw review.
6. Vote on Bylaws
Members voted to approve the Bylaws as amended.
7. Vote for Board of Directors (5)
With the new Bylaws established, nominations for Board of Directors were requested. Five people were needed to fill the Board seats. The names of five people who were interested were drawn out of a hat to establish seat assignments. Members voted to approve the new Board of Directors:
 - Seat A, two year term = Ann Betty
 - Seat B, two year term = Jen Mac Donald
 - Seat C, two year term = Keith Nyitray
 - Seat D, one year term = Ron Dick
 - Seat E, one year term = Renee Pierce

8. Other New Business:

a. First member

A motion was put forth to make Ann Betty, the person responsible for starting the Sitka Food Co-op effort, the first official Co-op member. When membership cards are handed out to new members, Ann will receive card #1. This motion was voted on and approved by the members.

b. Fundraiser

The Co-op is planning a raffle this fall for two Blue Valley Meats free-range turkeys. This fundraiser is being planned in conjunction with the Sitka Local Food Network (SLFN) as part of a National Food Day event. A planning meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 28th at St. Peters church.

c. Website construction

Ron Dick is finalizing the Co-op's website using a free web hosting service provided by Google.

d. Other announcements:

- i. Lisa Sadleir-Hart is on the Alaska Food Policy Council (AFPC) and there is a lot of legislative actions planned this year related to food. She provided AFPC brochures for those interested.
- ii. SLFN is holding their annual "Running of the Boots" fundraiser this Saturday, September 29th.
- iii. SLFN has been looking into the process for accepting food stamps and will share this information with the Co-op.

9. Next Annual Membership Meeting, September 2013

Meeting Adjourned: 7:00 pm