

BCS Board Meeting

August 26th, 2021

Board Members in Attendance: Bobbi Boos, Michelle Robison, Nancy Mathews, Jeff Goldin, Isabelle Daellenbach, Tosh Lewis, Pam Weaver

Absent Board Members: Corbin Baird

Staff Members in Attendance: Dee Boehler, Phil Phillipy, Taylor Ritchie

Guests in Attendance: Annie Eakin, Stacey Giroux, Patty Moon, Fitz Simmons, Liz Barnhart

1. Preliminaries
 - a. Announcements
 - i. Staff received bonuses this month
 - ii. Mini-retreat will be Saturday, November 13th
 - iii. We will have a guest, Annie Eakin, joining for Education
 - b. Review Board Calendar
 - i. GM Meetings are on Thursdays at 11:30am (except for Board Meeting weeks)
 - ii. Will start planning mini-retreat in September (Bobbi and Michelle are discussing)
 - iii. All committee annual reports are due in October
 - iv. The Columinate “early bird” contract is out and we can begin discussing it
 - v. Executive session in September to discuss Krejci Award nominees
2. Consent Agenda
 - a. Tonight’s Agenda
 - b. Minutes from July 22nd, 2021
 - i. Item 4B needs clarification about compliance/non-compliance
 - c. Ownership Cancellation Request Memo
 - d. B7 Communications
 - e. Goldin moves to accept Consent Agenda with edit to minutes, Robison seconds. All in favor, accepted.
3. Member Comments
 - a. None
4. GM Monitoring and Reports
 - a. B7
 - i. Continuing to see pattern of customer count increasing with basket size decreasing
 - ii. There is an error on YTD numbers, B7 will be resubmitted with correction
 - iii. The trend implies somewhat of a “return to normalcy” - people are stopping in more frequently for a smaller number of items, people are stopping in for lunch again, and deli is doing very well
 - iv. We did a good job of meeting people’s needs during the pandemic and increased loyalty as a result
 - v. Member count is up but member percentage of sales is down
 1. We need to see how this plays out over the course of the next quarter. This is only the first month and it’s July – we won’t know until we see new numbers. Looking at last year isn’t a reliable indicator because it was a weird time. Last year, nobody went anywhere in July and now people might be traveling more.

- b. B1
 - i. YTD – ended FY21 with a total net income of 1.2 million; 580,000 of that is directly from operations
 - ii. Great end to the fiscal year, especially given the craziness of the past year
 - iii. 1.9 million in the bank
 - iv. Giving back to staff
 - 1. Bonuses to staff this month and starting new program of gift cards on birthdays
 - v. Accepted as in compliance
5. Education
- a. Voting and Member Engagement
 - i. Priority is increasing voter turnout
 - ii. Make it personal – write blogs and have early communication about it
 - 1. OMCC can help
 - iii. Talking with Nicholas about owner-member engagement
 - iv. Buddy Program is doing well
 - v. Pitch an alternative to volunteering, such as committee involvement
 - vi. Maybe have an in-store chart to show voting participation progress and encourage more
 - vii. Discussed pros and cons of having an assigned board member as a primary contact – could make it a more personal experience but could potentially overwhelm a board that is already stretched thin
 - 1. Instead, have questions directed to the appropriate committee chair – still more personal, but more directed
 - b. SNAP Doubling with BFPC
 - i. Guest speaker – Annie Eakin from the Bloomington Food Policy Council
 - ii. Annie is a community wellness coordinator and helps people with limited resources get access to healthy food and physical activity
 - iii. BFPC could be helpful in collaborating on obtaining grants for the SNAP doubling program
 - iv. Primary point of research has been funding to see how this could be implemented
 - v. Annie put together potential grant options and we need to get started quickly
 - vi. Bloomingfoods can work with BFPC to provide a platform to help implement this program and offer education
6. General Business Items
- a. Updates on Columbus/East - Lease
 - b. Lease at East
 - i. East Lease has been looked at by Chris and attorney – some things had been adjusted
 - ii. We lost 2/10 of an acre due to Trinitas reconfigured parking plan
 - iii. Regular customer parking should not be majorly affected, but staff parking could be an issue (because they currently use the former KMart parking lot)

- iv. What has been presented to us is what has been approved by the city so they are not looking to renegotiate anything – overall, landlord is happy with it and we are happy with it
- v. If we have a good project or idea, we would need permission from lessor, but couldn't imagine they wouldn't be supportive of a good project/idea as they have been in the past
- vi. It's a long-term lease – 20 year lease with option for another 25 years, so a total of 45 years
- vii. Goldin moves to accept the lease as presented, Lewis seconds. All in favor, approved.
- c. Leslie in October
 - i. Leslie from Columinate – her home coop (East Side Food Co-op in Minneapolis) has experience with soliciting additional member loans while still owing on member loans and has some creative ideas that maintain the good will of the member owners
 - ii. She can't commit to being our consultant but is happy to talk to us at a Board Meeting (October)
 - 1. Think ahead about questions
- d. Miscellaneous
 - i. If a member crosses the boundary of not being beneficial to co-op anymore, we can call an Executive Session to discuss revoking – not necessary to rewrite the policy
 - ii. Annual meeting will be on Thursday, October 21st and will be hosted virtually again this year
 - iii. Mini-retreat isn't until November, but we should start thinking about whether to do in-person or virtually and if in-person, where? How?
- e. Self-Monitoring C, D2, D4
 - i. Tabled until next month
- f. Policy Proposals – D3 and D5
 - i. D3
 - 1. On Officer's Committee list for a long time – they looked at it and could not recall why it needed to be discussed
 - 2. One minor change/clarification – GM is authorized to establish practices, store policies, plans, staff handbook, etc. for management of co-op but cannot change policy register
 - ii. D5
 - 1. It currently states that the evaluation should occur one year after hire date, but that does not make the most sense for us
 - 2. For our board structure, it makes more sense to have evaluations due in August
 - 3. A change in GMs could mean that we would have to either evaluate in less than one year or more than a year, depending on hire date
 - 4. VP turnover happens more often than GM turnover, so it makes sense to make this change and a shorter GM evaluation period, if necessary, could actually be beneficial

7. Committee Reports

- a. Perpetuation
 - i. Candidates are welcome to come to meetings
 - ii. Time to talk with Nicholas about marketing aspect
 - b. CCF
 - i. Nothing to report
 - c. OMCC
 - i. Minutes are in packet; some of it covered in Education section
 - ii. Buddy Program is going well and we are working out little kinks
 - iii. Looking at how we might incorporate committee interest survey into voting
 - d. Governance
 - i. Will have registered agent changed by next meeting
 - e. Annual Meeting
 - i. Meeting date clarified and agreed to have virtual meeting again
 - f. Krejci
 - i. Michele and Nicholas have exchanged emails about getting the information out
 - ii. Now that we have an established meeting date, we can get the finalized text out to begin gathering nominations
 - g. Finance
 - i. Looking at what kind of financial report to provide at Annual Meeting. Last year had a lot of good news and would like to do that again.
 - 1. Things to possibly report on: trends, report on lease, East store updates, member loans
 - 2. We want to address the member loans situation but not have it overtake the meeting – convey that they are a priority and communicate a plan to pay them back
 - 3. Perhaps have a member forum in the Spring specifically dedicated to this topic
 - ii. We didn't engage Fellows as well as we could have last year, so make sure we do not continue to downslide in that regard
 - h. Officers
 - i. Bobbi will post minutes
 - i. Education
 - i. Nothing to report
 - j. Birthday
 - i. Positive feedback and overall a success
8. Weaver moves to adjourn meeting, Mathews seconds. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Policy Compliance Summary

B1 – In compliance