

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes (teleconference)**August 12, 2020, 6:00 pm****Present:** Ceci Lopez, Ryan Peters, Melissa Morin, Margaret Gerard, Randy Rydel, Laura Weiss, Sara Southerland, Ralph Havens, Adrienne Renz, Jean Rogers**Absent:** Alex Chose, Terrance Morris**Facilitator:** Holly O’Neil

Topic	Key points	Outcome
Member Forum	No member-owners in attendance	--
Study & Engagement: The Food Ecosystem	Sara Southerland, representing the Whatcom Food Network (WFN), presented information about Whatcom County’s food system, covering key issues, opportunities, and current projects, and collaborating to address challenges (economic, food access, Covid-19 etc.) Discussion followed, and the Board listed topics for ongoing discussion and prioritization. Directors will write up their areas of interest with some specifics by September, with Adrienne’s perspective and input as part of the discussion.	--
Consent Agenda	All directors but one, who stood aside, confirmed they read the Board packet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Board minutes: 7/8/2020</i> • <i>Committee reports: Board Development (July 29), Finance (July 1, July 28)</i> • <i>Operational monitoring report: B1.1 – 1.12.1 (Financial Condition)</i> • <i>Finance Committee monitoring: B1.1 – 1.12.1 (Financial Condition)</i> 	Approved by consensus
GM Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Financial:</i> We have held steady through the pandemic, but will budget conservatively for 2021. The goal is to keep the Co-op values and principles while also navigating a recession. • <i>Member Linkage:</i> Trends are largely positive regarding the steps we have taken to address the pandemic. The group discussed ways to use the receipt survey to further review member satisfaction. • <i>Exemplary Workplace:</i> As essential workers, staff are under a lot of stress. The Co-op will have a wellness campaign August through March, maintain hazard pay to staff on the sales floor during open hours, and added a “fit for duty” routine to increase safety. We are working to maintain staffing when employees have to isolate if they have symptoms of Covid-19. 	--
Board Site (Boardable)	In August and September, the Board will start the transition to using the new Board portal system, with a goal of using the full system in October.	--
Member-Owner Communications to and from the Board	The Board Chair discussed current communication with member-owners and the process for responding to member-owner concerns. To ensure the full Board speaks with one voice and uses accurate data, the Board will refer all inquiries to the Board email and phone contact number. The Board will also re-explore a grievance policy and set up tiers to respond effectively to members.	--
Adjournment	The meeting concluded at 8:00 pm	--

*These minutes have not been approved by the Board***Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 9 at 6:00 pm (teleconference – “doors” open at 5:45 PM)**