

**Ozark Natural Foods  
Board Meeting Minutes**

March 25th  
6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Joshua Youngblood, Hank Kaminsky,  
Tuesday Eastlack, Colleen Pancake,  
Sue Graham, Danielle Dotson, Todd Scarborough

Board Members Absent:

Staff Members Present: Alysén Land

Facilitator: Kathleen Trotter

**February Minutes**

- **Motion made, seconded and carried unanimously** to approve Feb. 18 minutes.

**Floor Reports**

President's Report:

- Expressed appreciation for the staff's amazing response to the logistics of canceling the AOM. Although it was disappointing to cancel after such great planning, it was handled with a high level of cooperation.
- New AOM date is April 27th and proxies are needed to ensure a quorum.
- Reported on conversations with Thane (CDS consultant) regarding board education ideas, potential board retreat dates and agenda, and the revision to the bylaws.
- CCMA is the second week in June and two board members need to plan on attending. Danielle and Hank would be the board members yet needing to attend.
- ONF was a finalist for Outstanding Business of the Year and was represented by Staff and some board members who traveled to Little Rock for the ceremony.

GM Report:

- Expressed appreciation to the staff for the way they handled the AOM cancellation.
- Reviewed Argenta Market opportunities.
- The deli recently had a three day audit by NCGA expert Linda McCann working on best practices, creating goals and setting dates to achieve the new goals.

**Reporting and Board Decisions**

B.5 Communication and Counsel to the Board:

- Report and attachments were sent and reviewed prior to meeting.
- Josh commented that he has felt very informed this past year and that was in part to not only transparency, but a better understanding between Board and Management
- **Motion** to accept the report was **made, seconded and passed unanimously**.

Establish Growth and Strategy Committee:

- The Board discussed the possibility of a new Growth and Strategy committee focused on conducting research for strategic decision making and future plans and to serve as a liaison to management.

- **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously** to establish a Growth and Strategy Committee.
- CDS Templates and Thane will help Josh begin creating a charter for the committee.

#### Refund for Deceased Owner:

- The Board received the documentation for deceased owner Charles Kester requesting a refund of equity and name change to his wife's name so she may receive the retained patronage when it comes due.
- **Motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously** to refund the owner equity for Charles Kester and to change the name on account to Cheryl Kester.

#### **Discussions**

##### AOM, Take Two (April 27) review:

- The new Annual Owners Meeting date is April 27th.
- 1:30pm- Check in
- 2:00-2:30pm- Business meeting
  - 2:30-3:00pm Candidate Q&A
- 3:00-3:30 Board Q&A (for as long as it lasts up to 3:30pm)

##### Policy Committee Report

- Presented and discussed new policy drafts, continued work on Board Procedure Manual and other recommendations. To be continued.

##### Owner Solutions Committee (OSC):

- Reviewed and discussed committee recommendations.
- Approved holding OSC facilitated Talking Post during Owner Appreciation Weekend.
- ONF will be participating in Earth Day activities at the U of A
- Coffee with the Board will also take place during OAW.
- OSC seeking volunteers to help Farmers with Farms tour in May.

##### Dinner with the Board/Owner Linkage Plan:

- Tabled.

##### Board Education: Strategic Planning Discussion

- The Board viewed a video released by National Cooperative Grocers Association discussing growth in the co-op sector and the on-going strategic initiatives being developed to promote cooperatives.

#### **Board Policies Review**

##### D.14 Board Benefits

- The board acknowledged previous discussions regarding board stipends, other benefits. Agreed to continue to discuss, and to include in the July retreat agenda for input from Thane (CDS consultant).

#### **Upcoming meeting dates**

- April 22nd

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm**