

**Ozark Natural Foods**  
**June Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday July 7th, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Joshua Youngblood, Ben Ozanne, Randy Willburn  
Elizabeth Quinn, Danielle Dotson, James Selvey,

Board Members Absent: Connor Corley

Staff Members Present: Mike Anzalone, Lisa Garrett

**Consent Agenda: Motion** was made to approve consent agenda **and carried 6/0.**

### **Floor Reports**

#### President's Report:

- The board has had a lot of phone calls, meetings, and emails this month trying to help direct the conversations around the issues of the past few weeks.

#### GM Report:

- The first full month being open, sales have been strong. Over \$200,000 the first two weeks the store was open. Sales growth over last year is very promising. The dip in sales during the 3rd week was due to loss of power. Last week rebounded and things seem promising. The store hasn't opened the tap room, patio, etc. which will also have an increase in sales.
- The power outage was caused by a contractor and the store lost some product. Total damages incurred will be \$60,000. Store will not take a loss.
- One idea for 'what is next' : a developer in Bentonville showed Mike property for potential store location in a multiuser development area. Potentially a second location could be open in 2.5 years.

### **Reporting & Board Decisions**

#### June Temporary Governance Report

- Mike reported on the budget and progress of finishing the new building.
- **Motion** to approve the report as presented by Mike Anzalone was **made, seconded, and carried 6/0.**

#### Perpetuation Committee

- Board determined that since the Candidate Q&As are poorly attended, we will not have on this year, only the candidate statements will be included in the newsletter.

### **Discussions**

### AOM and Grand Opening

- Lisa confirmed the time for virtual AOW Sept 13th to be 1–2pm. Registration will be via Eventbrite. Suggested incentives include \$25 gift cards for the first 160 people to attend. Also a random drawing of seven \$100 gift cards.
- The Grand Opening will be delayed due to COVID 19 however the store is thinking of ideas to help commemorate the move.

### **Board Policies for review/discussion:**

- C2- Accountability of the GM
- C3-Delegation to the GM

### **Upcoming meeting dates:**

- July 28th, 2020

### **Meeting adjourned at pm 8:32 pm**

### **Closed Session: What's Next?**

### **Owner Comments:**

Josh Moody- Concern regarding Covid and the amount of plastic tubs being used in bulk. When can people start using sustainable jars, etc again? Are there local options for compostable or not use plastic?

Sarah Craig- Would like to hear comments from other owners, would like to hear what ONF plans to do differently?

Erica Tempesta- The coops stance is apolitical/non political however the point of the co-op was built on very political topics: access to food , labor rights, etc. Erica suggesting paying a DEI consultant and explore how to make space welcoming to everyone

Keanu Aktrias - A lot of concern how this org hasn't done a part to be helpful to people in the community. Feels he has been marginalize and made to feel his existence is political. He wants to be involved loving, accepting, open and better for the community.

Michelle Sherwin- Has been a member 23 years, wants everyone to feel welcome. Is it even possible to stay nonpolitical? Did not understand why the store felt the need to apologize.

Anna Huff Davis- Doesn't live in the area but has heard a lot about recent events. How have people of color been involved in the communities push back? how have you engaged/gotten input from people of color to respond to the recent events. Also wondering if the coop accepts SNAP/food stamps?

Meklya Walters-Used to be an employee, very invested in the coop and is wondering is people know they can use SNAP and WIC benefits to shop at the co-op? Also wondering how to engage people so they are aware.

**Additional comments in chat:**

Is the store safe? Yes, the terroristic threat was directed at the Board Meeting  
How does the store ensure employee safety?

What prompted the police to be at the store handing out masks? An individual was spreading false information online about the stores mask policy. Suggested an informational campaign in partnership with FPD.

How is the store enforcing the city ordinance regarding masks?