



North Coast Co-op
Member Action Committee (MAC) Minutes
July 13, 2016 – Co-op Community Kitchen, Arcata

EAC Members present:

Melanie Bettenhausen, MaryElla Anderson, Jolie Harvey, Brenda Harper, Colin Fiske, Robert Sataua, Margaret Sataua, Christine Brockway, Cheri Strong, Leah Stamper, Nick Tyner, Lauren Fawcett, Ed Smith, Patricia Wintersun, Alison B., Emma Nation, and Kiya Villarreal (notetaker)

At 6:00pm Mary Ella Anderson welcomed everyone, introductions were made and consensus process reviewed.

Review: No changes to agenda.

Consensus to approve June meeting minutes.

Member Comments.

Volunteer opportunities as a part of the 'Ambassador Program' is addressing any work that isn't covered by union contracts is eligible for volunteers to perform. The explicit terms for any volunteer opportunities can be proposed to unions via a memorandum as a separate agreement outside of the contract. The benefits of a separate agreement include the flexibility for changes as needed.

Consensus to recommend to Board: That the board direct management to negotiate a side agreement or memorandum with the Union that specifies terms of a volunteer program and report back to the MAC.

Speaker Program: Discussion Included:

Consensus reached to have Patty Clary as a speaker

Patty Clary will attend as a guest speaker for the September 14th MAC meeting. Patty will discuss multiple chemical sensitivity; she will be representing the organization Californians for Alternatives to Toxics or CATs as the Executive Director.

Lauren Fawcett will reach out to 'The Worm Guy' and report back if they are interested in being a guest speaker at a future MAC meeting.

MAC Promotion. Discussion included:

Thrill of the Grill outreach was an example of successful advertising for MAC. "The Neighborhood Fair" is an upcoming opportunity for MAC promotion at the HSU campus for students. McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce Beer and Wine Walk Sept 10th is a new and upcoming event available for MAC promotion. Contact Jolie Harvey for event details and to volunteer as MAC representation for either event.

Ambassador Program. Discussion included:

The Ambassador program is the volunteer program. There is already a model of this from Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op owner worker program. The system in Sacramento is anyone can sign up and receive training. Volunteering 6hrs/month members are awarded a discount the following month. A volunteer coordinator is on staff to organize volunteers' tasks. This program can be an Ambassador program for the Co-op as a way for bringing information about the Co-op into the community. Looking forward, we should create a package of marketing materials to be given to volunteer ambassadors as a way of representing and promoting the North Coast Co-op at community events.

Advocacy. Discussion included: Driscolls Berry Update:

Sakuma brothers agreed to meet with Familias Unidas and begin contract negotiations. There is still a lot of ground to cover pertaining to formal contracts with Sakuma farms and partnership with the farm in Mexico also. Within both stores there is the boycott information available in various physical locations as well as online.

Raw Milk Update:

While the Board did not take a stance on the safety of raw milk we have offered our support to a group of members advocating for the sale of raw milk within the county. A number of people are interested in access to raw milk. The Co-op would not sell raw milk at this time but is offering support to members working to lift the ban by appealing to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors.

Agenda Items for next meeting: Reviewed potential agenda items and prioritized as follows:

Follow up on Board meeting

Speaker Program: ideas for potential speakers on topics of interest to the Co-op. The Worm Guy?

Driscoll Boycott update

MAC Promotion

Review Roles & Responsibilities: Consensus reached that Cheri will be facilitator for August meeting and Colin will be reporter for August board meeting. Lauren Fawcett will reach out to 'The Worm Guy' and report back if they are interested in being a guest speaker at a future MAC meeting.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 10 from 6-7pm at the Ten Pin Building in Arcata.

Consensus reached to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm

Committee Recommendations:

1. That the board direct management to negotiate a side agreement or memorandum with the Union that specifies terms of a volunteer program and report back to the MAC.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:55pm

Minutes by Kiya Villarreal