



Nominating Committee Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2016 Ten Pin Conference Room

Present

Board: Leah Stamper and Cheri Strong

Staff: Melanie Bettenhausen, Ed Smith, Alisha Stafford and Bella Waters

Meeting commenced at 1:01pm

Welcome. Committee Chair Leah welcomed all. No agenda additions.

Minute approval. **Consensus reached to approve November 3 2015 minutes.**

Election Station Process. Discussion included:

- Cheri recapped the concerns that were raised last year with the election stations changing several times during the course of the election. Board recommended that store managers, or similar, attend this meeting to coordinate the voting stations and reach agreement that those stations wouldn't change. Alisha is the representative as she coordinates the front area.
- Committee agreed that the final locations of the stations were effective: Arcata – near last register and Eureka – right when you walk in the front doors. Alisha will measure to ensure those stations are 25 feet from the free speech zone in Arcata and the entry way in Eureka. Melanie will work on free speech zone in Eureka.
- Committee agreed that all candidates' statements need to be at eye level and are flexible with the vertical size of paper used to make that happen. Statements to be organized alphabetically by last name.
- Committee agreed that stations should look professional and the Membership and Marketing department is responsible. No changes should be made to the stations unless the Nominating Committee approves it.
- Tabling policy needs to be discussed to address concerns raised last year (blank ballots on table, candidates handling filled out ballots, if tabling is allowed in the stores, etc.)
- Candidate campaigning had dual function – campaigning for themselves and getting the word out on voting. Melanie noted that the Co-op didn't do a lot to get the word out on voting, but if there was commitment and staff time to dedicate to that then candidates wouldn't need to be fielding questions about the election. Would solve some big problems and concerns.

Timeline for 2016 Employee and General Election. Discussion included:

- Concern on length of election and awkward time between end of election and start of director terms.
- Leah will work with Melanie on language for press release and public service announcement in early October.
- Committee agreed on concept of holding the annual membership meeting during election period. This would allow members to meet the candidates, potentially hold elections for only one month, allow more time for bylaw work, provide members opportunity to discuss potential bylaw changes, etc.
- Committee Chair Leah will present concept at February board meeting and ask for agreement on annual membership meeting date. Election period could be October 1 – October 27th. Staff will readjust the timeline based on board feedback.
- Voting to end at 9pm, rather than 5pm.

Election Material Review. Discussion included:

- Materials will be reviewed at February Committee meeting. Timeline may change. Overall application and brochure looks good.

Next Steps. Discussion included:

- Board buy-in for annual membership meeting and October only voting period concept.
- Tabling policy
- Schedule next meeting by email, to be held in February.

Minutes by Bella Waters

Recommendation for Board: no recommendations.