

UNAPPROVED



**Annual Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2021**

The meeting began promptly at 6:00pm. Quorum was established with 107 people logged into Zoom. Kari Bradley welcomed everyone and shared regret that we could not meet in person. He acknowledged the holiday of Diwali. He introduced Bonnie Hudspeth of Neighboring Food Co-op Association as the meeting moderator. Bonnie and reviewed the agenda and logistics of the Zoom format.

Council President Eric Jacobson acknowledged Co-op employees for their hard work and dedication. He then initiated two polls to get to know attendees. We then heard brief videos from current council members and the one new candidate. Eric then reminded attendees that council elections are wrapping up and encourage people to participate. The Council will appoint a member to fill a vacancy.

RJ Adler made a motion to approve the 2020 annual meeting minutes and Jen Porrier seconded. There were some questions about how the seats are assigned and length of terms. 80% voted yes to approve the minutes, 20% abstained.

Olivia Dunton, council member and employee led an appreciation of Co-op employees and recognized co-op employees who have reached milestone anniversaries.

Bonnie introduced Nicole Dehne of Vermont Organic Farmers who shared a presentation on The Connection Between Agriculture, Climate Change and the Role of the Cooperative Community. She highlighted actions that Vermont farmers are taking to address climate change and the power of consumer choices to influence policy. Nicole responded to questions.

Eric and Kari shared this year's impact report, including financials and other indicators that demonstrate the positive impact the co-op is having in our community. Kari also acknowledged the industry-wide supply chain and labor issues the Co-op is currently addressing. He also talked about COVID-19 precautions and holiday shopping. Bonnie shared comments and questions after the presentation.

Claire Wheeler presented this year's Hunger Mountain Cooperative Community Fund grant recipients. The Co-op is dispersing over \$11,000 to support ten groups.

Steven Farnham presented the winner of the Hunger Mountain Cooperative Community Award: Peter Colman of Vermont Salumi and AR Market. Pete accepted the award through a prerecorded video. There was appreciation for the impact that Pete has had in the Co-op community.

In closing, Kari recognized outgoing council members and reminded folks of the council appointment application process. Eric thanked all who supported the meeting and then announced the raffle winners.

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 7:22pm.

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