



Special Member Meeting to Consider Proposed Revisions to Co-op Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation

Thursday, May 12, 2022 from 6–8 pm via Zoom

Background: In 2018, the Co-op Council created a committee to review and propose updates to the Co-op's bylaws. In February 2020, the council accepted the Bylaw Committee's recommendations for proposed revisions to our co-op's bylaws.

The special meeting will be conducted May 12, 6–8 pm via Zoom. You must be present at the online meeting to vote. All voting will be conducted through the Co-op's online voting platform. Each voting item will be presented, discussed and voted on in order. A detailed meeting agenda is posted at hungermountain.coop/bylaw-proposal.

Register for our special meeting at hungermountain.coop/bylaw-proposal by May 5 to receive a \$15 coupon and be automatically entered for in-meeting raffles. The final meeting registration deadline is 5 pm on May 11. You will be emailed voting instructions and your Zoom meeting link after you register.

Ways to Learn More

- Email the Bylaw Committee at bylaws@hungermountain.coop
- Stop by the Co-op to speak with a Bylaw Committee Member;
April 23 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm
May 4 from 4 to 6 pm
May 9 from 4 to 6 pm
- Join us for an online forum — link available at hungermountain.coop/bylaw-proposal or by emailing info@hungermountain.coop;
May 4 from 6 to 7 pm
May 9 from noon to 1 pm
- Read our frequently asked questions about our bylaws (excerpt on back side) and all other relevant documents at hungermountain.coop/bylaw-proposal



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are bylaws and why are they important?

A: The bylaws are the Co-op's principal governance document. They articulate the members' agreements for how the Co-op organizes itself, including membership benefits, the authority of our Co-op Council and more. Co-ops are required by statute to have bylaws.

Q: Where can I find the current (2012) bylaws?

A: The [current bylaws](#) are always available on the Co-op's website. Also available is the proposed revision, the proposed amendments, and minutes from Bylaw Committee meetings. You can request printed copies of these documents by emailing staff at info@hungermountain.coop or by calling [802-262-3202](tel:802-262-3202).

Q: Why do we need to update them now?

A: The current bylaws are a patchwork of original material and numerous subsequent amendments aimed at addressing various singular needs. No comprehensive rewrite of the bylaws has taken place in at least twenty years. As a result, the Co-op's current bylaws are poorly organized, confusing, and contain inconsistencies that make compliance challenging. The need for a full update of our bylaws was identified many years ago. The proposed revised bylaws are written to be clear and easy to follow.

Q: What process has been used to propose the bylaw revisions?

A: The Co-op Council chartered a Bylaw Committee in the summer of 2018. Co-op members at large were invited to apply, and from several volunteers, four members joined the committee along with two members of the council.

From 2018 through early 2020, the Bylaw Committee met extensively to write the proposed revisions. Since early 2020, the committee's work has focused on bringing the revisions to members for a vote—a process that has been considerably delayed by the pandemic.

Throughout the process, the committee has solicited input from all stakeholders: the council, Co-op employees, and the general membership. Bylaw Committee meetings have been warned, and members were invited to numerous forums to learn more about the process and provide input to the committee. Committee members also staffed tables in the store, to provide information about the bylaw revisions and solicit input. The Co-op's website has a special bylaws section on the Council Meetings & Resources page, where the committee's work is available.

Q: How will members be informed of and discuss the proposed revisions?

A: The Bylaw Committee, the council, and Co-op staff will conduct extensive outreach to members to understand the changes prior to the vote. This will include a series of meetings, written materials sent to each member, and emails to the member mailing list. Members may send questions to bylaws@hungermountain.coop.

Read more frequently asked questions about our bylaws and all other relevant documents at hungermountain.coop/bylaw-proposal.