

Yahara River Cooperative Grocery Interim Board Meeting
EMS Building-Training Room
516 South Fourth Street, Stoughton, Wisconsin
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 16, 2007

MINUTES

Interim Board Members present:

Phil Caravello, Community Representative and Site Location Committee Member
Myra Hajny, Secretary
Homer Howard, Senior Co-representative
Warren Kmiec, Acting Chair and Business Planning Committee Chair
Caroline Werner, Co- chair

Also present:

Pam Barnes, Research Committee Member
Steve Barnes, Research Committee Chair
Eric Borchardt, Marketing Communications Committee Chair
Mary Condon, Research Committee Member
Jon Hajny, Research Committee Member
Scott Mephram, Business Plan Committee Member
Norma Sampson, Marketing Communications Committee Member
Scott Trautman, Marketing Communications Committee Member
Kristine Vaughn, Membership Committee Chair
Marlene Widra, Site Location Committee Member

Warren Kmiec called the meeting to order and noted that the meeting would be conducted as a *Committee of the Whole*. The agenda for the meeting was established.

The minutes of the January 2, 2007 meeting were approved.

Jeff Zarth made a brief presentation to explain how several cooperatives he has worked with are organized.

On **MOTION** (J. Hajny/Borchardt) and unanimous vote the full slate of nominees for the Board of Directors were elected to the new Board positions as follows:

President	Steve Barnes
Vice President	Norma Sampson
Secretary	Myra Hajny
Treasurer	Warren Kmiec
Member-at-Large	Phil Caravello

[NOTE: According to the bylaws that were adopted at the January 2 meeting, the composition of the Board also includes the chairs or a representative of the standing committees and of any temporary committees designated by the Board.]

Steve Barnes presided over the rest of the meeting.

Warren Kmiec and Caroline Werner noted that they had recently visited the Food Cooperative in Barneveld, Wisconsin.

SITE LOCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Marlene Widra reported that the owners of the former Stoughton Lumber building (Bill and Erica Buss) have not provided information they promised to send to her. Discussion ensued about other possible locations, and Marlene will continue the investigation.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Eric Borchardt reported that seven members of the Marketing Communications Committee met on November 10, and they are working on identifying whom they are trying to reach and how they want to communicate with potential members. Eric will bring back recommendations for a website address and contact points for approval by the board.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Kristine Vaughn reported that there are currently 321 names on the membership database. The Membership Committee is down to two members, but Kris feels they work well together and there is no need for additional members at this time.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Steve Barnes reported that the Research Committee would meet on January 23 to continue work on the Articles of Incorporation. He spent quite a bit of time talking to Gene Hahn, the Finance Manager at the Willy Street co-op, and felt he had gleaned some good information from the conversation.

TREASURERS REPORT

Warren Kmiec reported that there is \$571 in the treasury. An additional \$1,000 is expected by the end of the month from Dane County for the successful completion of the co-op business plan.

REPORT ON STATUS OF GRANT PROPOSAL

Caroline Werner reported that she and Warren Kmiec attended the Dane County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Commission meeting in December 2006. Warren responded to questions by Commissioner Donna Vogel (one of the Dane County Supervisors representing the Stoughton area), and, based on Ms. Vogel's questioning, the Commission granted \$30,000 to be used for a Project Manager. Prior to this meeting, Caroline had talked with Lee Cunningham of the Dane County Ag Council about the prospect of transferring some of those grant funds to marketing. Mr. Cunningham advised that transfer could be requested of the CDBG Commission; however, he reminded Caroline that the grant is based on matching funds coming from Stoughton area residents. Given that, it appears likely that the Commission will expect that marketing costs will be part of the Stoughton area residents' contribution to the cooperative effort. Caroline is willing to continue conversations with the CDBG Commission to determine what other expenses the money could be used for.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 30, 2007, in the Training Room of the EMS Building at 516 South Fourth Street.

Respectfully submitted,
Myra Anderson Hajny, Secretary