

MINUTES

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, June 24, 2013 – 6:30pm
Café back room

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm

Participants:

Board of Directors: Michael Hartman (President), Dorian Winterfeld (Treasurer), Nancy Melandry (Secretary), Lisa Voith, Neil McConologue

Audit Committee: Tom LeaMondt, Mike Stark, Frank Gervasi

Staff: Terri Rutledge, Amethyst Dwyer

Visitors: Craig Tooley, Jerry Dancis, Meg Haney, Mike Rall, Alan Zambreny, Tom Moran

Proposed Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda – unanimous
2. Approval of minutes from June 3 BOD meeting – unanimous
3. Members and visitors:
 - Jerry Dancis: Suggested we pay our volunteers.
 - Tom Moran: Status report of work performed per energy audit.

Reports

4. General Manager (attached)
5. Bar Manager (attached)
6. Committees (Music Committee attached)
7. Audit Committee (none)

New Business

8. Website Feedback Options / Individual Email Addresses
 - Feedback tab disabled due to increased spam; will replace with alternative (to be determined).
9. Membership meeting regarding Management Agreement
 - Date for meeting with membership to be determined in executive session.

Meeting adjourned – 7:45pm

Nancy Melandry
Secretary, Board of Directors



New Deal Cafe Cooperative
General Manager's Report
June 2013

Overall Summary

Crazy Quilt preparations took over the last 3 weeks, along with lots of café/equipment maintenance tasks and meetings.

Financial Update

The last two months continue to show an increase in sales over last year. A quarterly update will be presented in the next General Manager's report.

Projects and Special Events

Crazy Quilt Music Festival

It was another totally beautiful day for Crazy Quilt this year – sun and smiles and a full day of amazing music! Director Joe Harris did an excellent job booking amazing bands and MC'ing the whole day, Frank Kayser helped it all sound perfect, Chris Logan was there dutifully day and night as the main stage crew, and Barbara Simon was making everyone happy writing FONDCA checks all day. Johanna Goderre did her usual headdress-wearing daytime Festival Bartender gig to everyone's delight, Matt Holland pulled the sound together beautifully for the U-Liners in the back room, and Bill Doley took over as an ace bartender in the evening with me! The musicians seemed particularly happy this year! We ended up with two very nice, large, well-written articles - one afterwards in the News Review (with pics!) covering the Festival on the entire back page and one prior in the Gazette publicizing the Festival and highlighting some of the bands.

It should be noted that KMK did not contribute towards Crazy Quilt this year, other than offering to feed the director and the sound man. Over the last several years (since FONDCA stopped paying) we have shared advertising and food costs for the Festivals.

ACLU Meeting

The ACLU held their annual Montgomery-Prince George's County meeting at the café this year, bringing very hot topics along with them. The topic for panel discussion this year was "Marijuana Legalization". Also, two days prior to the meeting the ACLU filed a lawsuit against the Obama administration challenging the constitutionality of the NSA gathering metadata. We had a full house and it appeared that everyone thought the meeting and the buffet came off splendidly.

Bar Operations

The new keg cart arrived and worked well in lugging those heavy, unwieldy kegs around. It is certainly much smaller to store in the front hall closet. However, it promptly broke within the first week. The company was fairly responsive and we should receive a replacement next week. They did say they had never heard of one breaking like ours before.

FONDCA

The Green Man Group Show Art Reception was held on Sunday, June 2: this year's theme celebrated the 10th year since the Greenbelt Forest Preserve became protected woodland in Greenbelt! It was a love fest for the original Committee to Save the Greenbelt with both Paul Downs and Susan Barnett speaking about the history and Allison Smith and John providing perfect accompaniment. The reception also featured John Hayes and his flowing sculptures in the display case.

The Poetry Moment box holds a new poem for June which will stay up for 2 months: "#8" by Chris Farago.

Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance

The Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance announced the winner of the Logo Contest – café regular Ryan Willis - over Greenbelt Day Weekend, on Sunday June 2 in the Community Center gymnasium. We unveiled a new banner with the new logo, and Ryan accepted his \$250 Visa card from the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union!

Restaurant Contract and Facilities

Met with Karim several times regarding repairs to the facility and operations. The front air conditioner was worked on some more – the thermostat was replaced. We have been cited for repairs to the grease removal system, so I'll be researching and discussing that with Karim within the next month.

GM Action Items and other matters

Lease Renewal

The lease extension request was returned to us, completed and signed. We now have a lease for the next 5 years, with an option to extend for an additional 5 years at the end of this period. The terms do include yearly rent increases of 3%.

Clean Currents

The quote for Clean Currents came in, and after researching other options for wind power, I have agreed to sign the café up for a two year contract with Clean Currents. Karim was agreeable to this change as well: he understood that it's a fixed rate, and that we have no guarantees that the rate will stay lower than what we might receive otherwise.

Energy Audit

Tom Moran provided estimates for some of the recommendations on his Energy Audit Report list, and we met to go over the details. He will be working on making some of the less expensive changes during this next week.

Special Entertainment Permit

The application for exemption from Prince George's County's Special Entertainment Permit has been received. The form is a bit more descriptive this year. The renewal is due to be received at the Liquor Board by August 1.

Recommendations on Management Agreement

To be discussed in executive session.

Meetings

Board Meetings = 2

Bar Manager Meeting = 1

Committee Meetings = 3

Co-op Alliance Presentation = 1

Energy Audit Meeting = 1

Upcoming Activities

The next special event will be the Labor Day Festival on August 30. The café will close early on July 4, as usual.

Terri Rutledge

NDC Cooperative General Manager

June 21, 2013

Bar Manager's Report

Friday, June 21st, 2013

Two weeks ago the city inspector came to evaluate the cafe and bar. They requested that we attach the CO2 canisters to the wall with a chain to prevent them from falling. The General Manager has been informed of this. Other than that, we had no other issues.

The keg cart arrived and transports kegs very well. It is much easier to move them from the front to the back and can be done with one person. Unfortunately, this past weekend it was dropped and a part of it broke off. This appears to be the manufacturer's fault and it is in the process of being replaced.

Our newest beer, Flying Dog's Woody Creek, is selling well and is a fine summer Belgium White.

I am currently looking for more volunteer bartenders. Please let me know if you are aware of anyone that might be interested.

Music Coordinator's Report

Geff King, local Greenbelt honky-tonk legend, substituted for a last minute cancellation on Wednesday June 5th. He did a great job and was able to pull out several original songs that he had been working on.

Andy Poxon played to an energetic and full house on June 7th. The young man just keeps getting better and better!

Akoma Drummers, a fantastic West African drumming troupe, packed the cafe on June 11th - a Tuesday night!

The U-Liners played to a full house on Crazy Quilt Eve.

WAMMIE-nominated (and S.A.W. Open Mic host), Lynn Hollyfield, performed on Wednesday June 12th.

Poetry Night Open Mic and the Pub Quiz continue to generate community participation, as does the Fez Tones Bellydance Hafla.

Our regular Open Mics seem to be picking up a bit of steam the last month and have been fairly well attended.

~Amethyst