

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, January 13, 2014

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm

Participants:

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

Audit Committee: Mike Stark, Frank Gervasi

Staff: Amethyst Dwyer, Terri Rutledge

Visitors: Bill Wilkerson, Mike Rall, Bill Doley, Craig Tooley, Terri Acton, Peter May

1. Approval and prioritization of agenda – approved unanimously
2. Approval of December 23 BOD meeting minutes – approved unanimously
3. Members and Visitors:

Bill Wilkerson expressed his concerns on several issues. After he spoke for several minutes, beyond the time allocated to all members, the President allowed him some latitude and he was asked to quickly bring his remarks to a close and be seated so that the meeting could proceed. Mr. Wilkerson then asked that the "Minutes reflect that the Board President was not allowing him to speak". (Secretary's note: Mr. Wilkerson previously spoke beyond his allotted time and refused to be seated when asked by President.) Mr. Wilkerson continued to speak without being recognized. Mr. Wilkerson then interrupted other speakers. Given his disruptive behavior and refusal to be quiet, President warned Mr. Wilkerson that if he did not stop disrupting the meeting, he would be asked to leave. After several attempts to continue the meeting despite Mr. Wilkerson's repeated outbursts, the President requested Mr. Wilkerson leave the meeting; Mr. Wilkerson refused.

Motion: Bill Wilkerson leave immediately for repeatedly disrupting meeting (7:50pm).
Neil / Lisa 2nd / Unanimous

Bill Doley asked in lieu of membership receiving copy of the new Management Agreement, that a summary of changes from previous agreement be sent to NDC membership.

Reports:

4. General Manager (not submitted)
5. Bar Manager (attached)

6. Music Coordinator (attached)

Old Business:

10. Approval of December 9 BOD meeting minutes – approved unanimously.

11. 2014 Budget – Draft budget submitted by General Manager. Board and Audit Committee to review and set priorities for discretionary funds and discuss at 1/27/14 meeting.

New Business:

12. Handicapped Parking Violation – M. Hartman to send follow up e-mail to customer; T. Rutledge will ask Karim to confirm with delivery men that they are not parked in handicapped space.

Adjourned – 9:15pm

Subject: [ndc_board] Bar Manager & Music Coordinator's Report
From: Amethyst Dwyer (amethystdwyer@yahoo.com)
To: ndc_board@yahoogroups.com;
Date: Friday, January 10, 2014 4:31 PM

Friday January 10th, 2014

Bar Manager's Report

We have had our credit card ipad for three weeks and it seems to be working well. The staff have been trained and there appears to be no major issues. Overall, customers have been very pleased with our new "high tech" gadget.

Barbara Glick and Ronda Ansted were on staff for New Year's Eve. It was a moderately busy night with very few people actually sitting at the bar. Barbara commented that one bartender would have been adequate. Next year I would recommend that it is advertised that patrons are still welcome to come in to enjoy the music, sit at the bar and order off the regular menu.

The cafe was closed for four evenings over the holidays, but the weekends in December were strong and so helped to mitigate the revenue loss.

We have two new beers: Eight Point IPA from Devils Backbone (located in Lexington, VA and winner of Best Small Brewer of the Year in 2012 and 2013 at the Great American Beer Festival) and Dreamweaver Wheat from Troegs (located in Hershey, PA), winner of a 2012 Gold Medal from the Great American Beer Festival in the Hefeweizen category.

Music Coordinator's Report

We've had some great music over the holidays! Cold Hard Cash had a special Grinch holiday show, along with the rock and roll antics of The Nighthawks and April Vega's seasonally inspired harp music.

iliAMY and Tinsmith performed to a packed house and said good-bye to their longtime collaborator, Rowan Corbett, who will now be touring the nation with the Grammy-winning Carolina Chocolate Drops. Rowan has been playing the cafe for over a decade and we definitely wish him well!

Hard Swimmin' Fish, a New Deal favorite, performed to high accolade on New Year's Eve.

Some other highlights include: Tower Green (Renaissance and fantasy inspired rock); The Hall Brothers (featuring WAMMIE winning Chris and Chick Hall); Little Red & the Renegades (Zydeco, funk and Cajun); The Moxie Blues Band (blues and blues rock); The U-Liners (socially conscious Americana); Black Masala (high energy, Eastern European brass party band); 49 Cent Dress (modern rock); The Scrub Pines (ballads and instrumentals).

I was interviewed by Prince George's Community TV about the music scene at the New Deal. The clip will run on Friday January 10th at 4:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 10:30pm.

Subject: Minutes of Jan.13 NDC Board of Directors Meeting

From: bill wilkerson (whw26@verizon.net)

To: nancy.melandry@yahoo.com;

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2014 12:19 PM

Nancy ---

Please find attached the statement I read at the Jan 13 BOD meeting during the "members and vistor's" portion of the meeting. I request that it be appended to the minutes.

--- Bill

1. Conflict of Interest

A director shall not vote on or participate in discussions or deliberations on matters when a conflict is deemed to exist. Because of the possibility that actual or potential conflicts of interest may arise when relatives of the Board are employed, the Café does not permit the employment of relatives of the Board. The Winterfelds are clearly in this situation and they, as well as the board, are doing a disservice to the cooperative in permitting it to continue. Intentional or unintentional, real or perceived, the conflict exists.

The Winterfelds have recruited a faction of friends on the board, on the audit committee, and in the membership with whom they regularly socializes to advance a thinly hidden agenda to attack the GM, and to elevate the bar manager's status and remuneration.

I AGAIN MUST ASK THAT THE BOARD DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM AND ASK MR WINTERFELD TO RESIGN.

2. Performance Evaluation

After the board voted on the GM's performance rating in 2013, Mr Hartman never prepared the written evaluation, which by the way, reflected a very good performance rating of the GM. The board has failed to give a performance evaluation to the general manager for the past two years as required by the Approved Personnel Policy. Individual board members have criticized her performance without giving her a board derived evaluation with expectations and identification of areas for improvement.

The Board's so-called "HR" project is unnecessary to complete the evaluation, and in fact, any changes to the personnel policy are not retroactive. The board can't change the personal policy without the membership as a whole having. In addition, no votes on personnel policy or job descriptions can be taken in executive session.

I ASK THE BOARD BRING THE ANY CHANGES TO THE PERSONNEL POLICY TO THE NEXT ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOR MEMBERSHIP REVIEW.

3. Independence of the Audit Committee

Audit committee members, including Tom Lemond, Frank Gervasi, and Tom Jones have lost their impartiality by becoming involved inn the so-called "HR" project, the budget, and the management agreement.

I ASK THE MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE TO REGAIN THEIR IMPARTIALITY AND TO STOP WORKING ON BOARD PROJECTS.

4. Budget

Reserves - The budget has to include contributions to a minimum 6-month emergency reserve of over \$20,000.

Energy Audit - The budget must include money to improve the building as recommended in the energy audit report.

Music & the Arts - The budget should contain money for expansion of programs for music and the arts.