



New Deal Cafe Cooperative General Manager's Report June 2012

Overall Summary

The main focus during this month, only 3 weeks after the last meeting, was preparation for the Crazy Quilt Music Festival.

Projects and Special Events

Crazy Quilt Music Festival

Crazy Quilt was held on Saturday, June 23, and by all accounts it was a huge success! Joe Harris scheduled a fantastic line-up (with several bands new to the café) from noon - 8 that covered varying genres and seemed to make everyone happy. Hula hoops, quilts, and fire-dancers added to the festivities! Sound man extraordinaire John Vengrouskie was doing his thing all day long, volunteers Chris Logan, Dorian Winterfeld and others helped with the outdoor setup, and Johanna Goderre (our regular "Festival" volunteer bartender) staffed the bar to a busy crowd in the afternoon. The bar had its biggest day of the year, and there was often a line to the door for Karim's food. Publicity-wise, the Gazette did a huge spread on the Festival, and the Washington Post also gave us a boost with a nice highlight in their Going Out Guide, complete with a picture of a fire-dancer and the Mother and Child statue from last year.

Entertainment

The Community- Sing-Along returned for its second round, a unique new event in the café's schedule, bringing a very family-oriented vibe to the back room.

The café also hosted another piano recital in the back room, with only a few days notice. It seems to be a perfect setting for such community events, especially during an otherwise slow afternoon, introducing the café and Karim's food to more families from outside of Greenbelt.

Bill Doley, who attended last month's sound training, has put his new knowledge to work by helping us greet the bands and set up during a couple of performances. His next challenge will be setting up a performer on his own.

After much research, I found some tip jars with header space that weren't too big or difficult to open, and we'll start using them on Tuesday.

Bar Operations

The Bar Volunteer Food Credit was introduced this month – the café and Karim will split the cost (up to \$10) of a meal for the volunteers while they are working.

Restaurant Contract and Facilities

I met with Karim and Maria periodically regarding the Crazy Quilt Festival, credit card charges, café storage, Karim's vacation, and various operational details. Karim will be traveling to Lebanon again this year in September for three weeks, for his daughter's wedding.

I finally found a location to store the café's permanent records, in the basement of a friend's house. They were moved from Kristin Stenson's house, with the help of Craig Tooley, in a few hours one evening. We appreciate Kristin's generosity in allowing us to use her basement for storage for so many years.

Meetings

Board Meetings = 1

Committee Meetings =4+

Upcoming Activities

The café will close at 4 on July 4th.

Terri Rutledge

NDC Co-op General Manager