

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, August 26, 2019
MINUTES

Attendees

Board of Directors: Tom LeaMond (President), Dorian Winterfeld (Treasurer), Mark Cheater (secretary), Michael Hartman, Diana McFadden

Audit Committee: Mike Stark, Raven Eyes Cagle, Joe Harris

Staff: Amethyst Dwyer, Alicia Deligianis, Carla Monardes

DC Vegan: Michael and Leah Moon

Visitors: Charise Liggins (City of Greenbelt Economic Development Coordinator); Leonard Tamko [sp?]; Hally Ahearn (worm composting project); John Campanile; Sandy Irving; Meg Haney (FONDCA); Mike Rall, Michael Smallwood (FONDCA)

Call to order – 6:37 pm

Approval and prioritization of proposed agenda, as amended

Dorian Winterfeld / Michael Hartman – 2nd / Unanimously approved

Approval of minutes of 6/10/19 board meeting, as amended

Dorian Winterfeld / Michael Hartman – 2nd / Unanimously approved

Reports

DC Vegan: Raul Baptiste has been promoted to front-of-house manager. New organizational chart for DCV presented. There will be a special menu and special hours for Labor Day weekend. Upcoming events include pumpkin carving, Halloween parade, etc.--DCV asks that NDC board represents at outdoor tabling for those events. DCV requests that bar staff be responsible for running drinks to front room/patio customers when bar is open. After a long discussion, the board decided to table the issue and ask Tom L., Amethyst D. and DCV to report on it at the next meeting. Following this, there was a discussion about the possibility of launching table service in the Cafe.

President: Continue to see new faces in the Cafe, and the business is growing.

Treasurer: Presented Profit and Loss statement for Quarter 2 of 2019. Net income for the Cafe was \$15,313 during that period, of which \$6,786 was used to service debt. As of 8/24, total debt has declined to \$144,177. The treasurer will add a line item for advertising, along with providing info on bank balances, in future reports.

Audit Committee: Asked that board and staff find ways to track the results of ads and coupons.

Bar Manager: Second quarter sales are up compared to the same period in 2018, 2017 and 2016. We learned that the DC City Paper had named us one of the Best Venues for Local Music in the region, which is a major achievement for the cafe.

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FONDCA: Mentioned the upcoming Blues Festival and Jazz Festival, and discussed the possibility of organizing events in the winter. Noted that FONDCA provided half of the funding for upcoming ads in the City Paper. Looking into using MailChimp for outreach.

New business

Charisse Liggins: Her goal as city economic development coordinator is to support the local business community. She helps run a regular local business breakfast meeting (next one is on Nov. 20) and is working on a monthly business newsletter and a video series spotlighting local businesses. She mentioned that the managers of the Capital Office Park on Ivy Lane have an outdoor pavilion that can be used for events--including to promote the Cafe and other businesses in Old Greenbelt.

Hally Ahearn: Since the start of the vermicomposting project in March 2018, they have turned nearly 7 tons of food waste into compost, which in turn is given out to local gardeners and groups. From April 6 to August 24, they have diverted more than 2,000 pounds of food waste from the Cafe. Next year, they are hoping to market (give away) Cafe-sourced compost in recycled coffee bags. They are also hoping to build two more hot-composting centers in Greenbelt, including one near Roosevelt Center.

Farmers Market Tabling: Michael H. volunteered to coordinate this and pick three dates at which the Cafe will table. He asked for people to help staff the table at these events.

25th Anniversary Planning: The Cafe will mark a major anniversary in 2020, and the board discussed ways to commemorate that, as well as leveraging it to launch a drive for new members and more donations. Tom L, Mark C., Michael H. and Raven Eyes volunteered to form a 25th Anniversary Committee.

Smoking: Diana M. raised the problem of people smoking outside near the cafe doors. Dorian W. offered to talk to the city about posting No Smoking signs on the sidewalk. We can also post signs on our windows, and announce our policy between music sets.

National Co-op Month: Michael H. noted that October is co-op month, and we should look for ways to promote co-ops. He asked that the October Pub Quiz feature one round of questions on co-ops, and also said he is working with a co-op radio station to broadcast from the Cafe in October. The Cafe newsletter can also include an item re: coops.

Raphael's Race: Tom L. said he received a message from the group sponsoring a local race raising money for disease research asking the Cafe to be a sponsor. *Dorian W. made a motion to give the group \$100. Michael Hartman seconded, and it was unanimously approved.*

Adjourned – 8:52pm

Submitted by Mark Cheater