

**New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Monday, Nov. 25, 2019**  
MINUTES

**Attendees**

Board of Directors: Tom LeaMond (President), Mark Cheater (secretary), Michael Hartman

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

Staff: Alicia Deligianis, Carla Monardes

Visitors: Katy Gaughan; John Campanile, Mike Rall, Naomi Littlefield, Aileen Kroll, Susan Harris, Barbara Bjanas, Nancy Melandry, Bill Jones, Peter May, Meg Haney, Jerry Dancis, Kathy Bartolomeo, Lore Rosenthal, Connie Davis, Alan Zambreny, Tim Morgan, Brandon Coleman, Frank Gervasi, Catherine Hardy, Terri Goodnow, Heather Brooks

**Call to order** – 6:32 pm

**New business**

Change in business hours: Tom L. summarized DC Vegan’s proposal to change the Cafe’s opening hours to 5pm on weekdays and 11am on weekends (from 11am and 10am, respectively) because of insufficient business during workday hours and early on weekends. He said the board wanted to get input from members and customers before making a decision on the proposal, and noted that an hour of the meeting would be devoted to listening to that public input.

More than 20 members and customers present spoke about the proposal, and many were dismayed about the change in hours. They noted that the Cafe serves an important and irreplaceable role as the community’s living room, and closing it for 26 hours per week would be a major loss. Many people asked if a compromise could be found to keep the Cafe open during some hours/days of the week, several made proposals to that effect (including a written proposal from Peter May). A common theme of the proposals was using member-volunteers to staff the Cafe during the day.

**Adjourned** – 7:30pm

*Submitted by Mark Cheater*