

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, Jan. 27, 2020
MINUTES

Attendees

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

Audit Committee: Raven Eyes Cagle, Mike Stark, Naomi Littlefield

Staff: Amethyst Dwyer, Carla Monardes

Visitors: Katy Gaughan; John Campanile, Susan Harris, Connie Davis, Peter May, Meg Haney, Mike Rall, Jessica Carlton, Joyce and Jack Grieger

Call to order – 6:35 pm

Approval of minutes of 12/23/19 board meeting, as amended

Dorian Winterfeld / Michael Hartman – 2nd / Unanimously approved

New Business

-Proposals from John Campanile: John proposes that the Cafe reserve a table at the Takoma Park Street Festival on Oct. 4. Michael H offers to talk to theater and/or Roosevelt Center Merchants Assoc to see if they want to partner on this. Board asks John to reserve a spot in the meantime. John also proposes the Cafe organize a Front Porch or Open Mic festival in the late summer or early fall. The board responds favorably, and asks John to come up with a detailed plan.

Reports

President: The Cafe's 25th anniversary kickoff party on Jan. 25 went well, with new members joining, about \$800 raised, and several local politicians speaking. We look forward to keeping the momentum going with more events throughout the year. The Community Living Room is going well on Thursday and Friday afternoons, and we're gauging interest in expanding this to Wednesday afternoons. (Discussion of possibility and challenges of selling food and drinks during these hours. As a first step, we'll offer baked goods for donations. We're working to initiate the "Bring Your Own Cafe" in response to the change in daytime opening hours.

Treasurer: IRS hasn't cashed check for back taxes, they claim they didn't receive it. The first check was cancelled and a second check was sent last week. Discussion of 2019 Profit and Loss statement, which showed the Cafe in the black for the year. The Cafe currently has about \$45,000 in the bank, with about \$15,000 in outstanding bills.

Audit Committee: Working with the treasurer on a budget for 2020.

Bar Manager: Sales in December were up 11% over Dec. 2018. The 25th anniversary happy hour was a big success, and New Year's Eve was the best ever at the Cafe. Sonic Kaleidoscope has offered to headline our 25th anniversary music festival in June.

FONDCA: Things are on track for our three outdoor music festivals this year. Considering setting up a separate account and doing fundraising for Cafe floor and ceiling improvements.

25th Anniversary Committee: The web page now has a PayPal donate button. Tie-dye bumper stickers (for \$10 and above donations) are in, T-shirts (for \$100 and above donations) will be in shortly, and coffee mugs & beer glasses have been ordered.

Community Living Room: Things are going well, but many people are disappointed that we're not selling food or coffee. Looking to expand hours to Wednesday afternoons. Suggestion to include a message about business hours on the Cafe's answering machine.

Member Discounts: Discussion of what amount of, and on which items, discounts should be offered to members, as well as the timing. *Motion by Tom L.: to offer a 10% discount on alcohol, and up to 10% off food, on the first Wednesday of every month to members. Seconded by Michael H. Unanimously approved.*

New business

Annual Meeting: Set for Sunday, May 3 at 1 pm. Discussion about reviewing bylaws and seeing if any updates/revisions should be proposed in advance of the meeting.

Member Loan: An anonymous member offered to make an interest-free \$10,000 loan to the Cafe to pay off our credit card debt. We would pay back the loan over a 10-month period. *Motion: to accept the member's offer of an interest-free loan of \$10,000, with a 10-month term. (DM). Seconded (MH) Unanimously approved.*

Ad in NASA-Goddard drama club program: *Motion: to place a full-page ad in the Goddard drama club program at a cost of \$100 (MH). Seconded (TL). Unanimously approved.*

City Paper Best of DC Contest: The contest from Feb. 6 to March 1. Last year we were runner-up in "Best Place to Experience Local Music" category. This year we will publicize the contest and ask members & patrons to vote for us in the same category.

Upcoming Meetings

- *Feb. 10: 25th anniversary committee meeting
- *Feb. 24: Next board meeting

Adjourned 8:38pm

Submitted by M. Cheater 2/6/2020