

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting (online)
Wednesday, July 29, 2020
MINUTES

Attendees

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

Audit Committee: Mike Stark

Staff: Amethyst Dwyer, Carla Monardes

DC Vegan: Leah Moon

FONDCA: Peter May

Visitors: Connie Davis, Arlene Kaminsky, Donna Hoffmeister, Katy Gaughan, Susan Harris, Greg Meyer, Lore Rosenthal, Johanna Goderre, Tom Jones, Stewart Johnson, Jenn Loss, Brandon Cole, Kathy Bartolomeo

Call to order – 6:36 pm

Approval of minutes of 6/22/20 board meeting

Dorian W. / Diana M – 2nd / approved unanimously

Reports

President: Michael Hartman noted that after several months of work, the board had successfully secured both city and county approval to slightly enlarge the Cafe's patio footprint to accommodate new Covid-related social distancing regulations, as well as the fire marshall's directive to address some minor inspection-related issues.

Treasurer: Dorian Winterfeld reviewed the Cafe's bank balances and answered questions from members. He noted that the grants and loans we have received from the federal government EIDL and PPP programs have been deposited in separate accounts and will only be used as needed and according to the terms of these programs.

Audit Committee: Mike Stark noted that there are currently two vacancies on the committee, and he is working on filling those vacancies.

FONDCA: Peter May pointed out that the Blues Festival had been cancelled for this year, and that there had been discussion about having an online art festival, with no decision yet reached.

Bar and Music Manager: Amethyst Dwyer said that wine and bottled/canned beer sales will begin on Friday (July 31) for consumption on the patio. She reminded attendees that the Cafe had received a letter last month from P.G. County officials expressly prohibiting live entertainment at the Cafe as part of Covid-related regulations. She said the Phenomenal Womxn Festival originally scheduled for August had been cancelled.

Old Business

Online Fundraising Auction: Volunteer Arlene Kaminsky, who is leading the effort, said that Beltway Plaza had generously agreed to become a major sponsor of the event, and that a total of 53 donations had been received to date. She pointed out that she needs at least 100 more items within the next month to reach her goal, and again asked everyone for their help in soliciting donations (of at least \$25 in value, preferably more) and sponsors for the auction. Arlene asked staff/board to create ads for our Facebook pages, newsletter, and the Greenbelt News Review. Johanna Goderre volunteered to write an article on the auction and the Cafe's reopening plans for the Greenbelt News Review.

New Business

Re-opening: Leah Moon outlined DC Vegan's plan for re-opening with a new menu and new hours beginning on July 31. As part of efforts to protect the health of customers, staff and the community, there will be many new procedures in effect, including a new process for ordering and picking up food in the front room, a strict requirement that masks be worn at all times when not eating or drinking, new biodegradable food containers, self-bussing of tables and social distancing. The front room has been re-configured to allow for social distancing while ordering and picking up food, and the back room is temporarily closed, so there will be no indoor seating at present.

Next Meeting: Originally scheduled for August 24, but may need to be rescheduled to August 26 to accommodate board members' schedules.

Adjourned at 7:32pm

Submitted by M. Cheater 8/4/20