

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting (online)
Monday, Jan. 4, 2021

MINUTES

Attendees

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

Audit Committee: Carla Monardes, Jay Bellamy

Staff: Amethyst Dwyer

FONDCA: [no board rep present; Cafe art director Chrissy Wilkin in attendance]

Visitors: Connie Davis, Bill Jones, Susan Harris, Effie Levner, Johanna Goderre, Tom LeaMond, Nancy Melandry, Donna Hoffmeister, John Campanile, Lore Rosenthal

Call to order – 6:32 pm

Approval of minutes of 11/30/20 board meeting

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

Reports

President: We are continuing to explore potential improvements at the Cafe. Appreciate the interest and attendance of members at our meetings.

Treasurer: Reviewed current accounts, including checking, money market, and government disaster loan balances. Noted that the federal Paycheck Protection Program loan of \$15,600 may be forgiven, and the state loan of \$50,000 may be forgiven (based on the governor's statements). Reminded everyone that the Cafe still owes \$86,510 to members.

Board President Michael Hartman moved that the New Deal Cafe formally accept the federal EIDL loan in the amount of \$101,600. Dorian Winterfeld seconded the motion. The entire board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Secretary: Thanked members who volunteered to do outreach and cleaning/organizing projects for the Cafe, and thanked Cafe art coordinator Chrissy Wilkin for the excellent online art reception she organized for artist Paul Downs on Dec. 20.

Audit Committee: no report.

Bar and Music Manager: nothing to report.

FONDCA: No report. Art coordinator Chrissy Wilkin noted that she was searching for another artist whose work would be suitable for window viewing in the Cafe, to display after Paul Downs' show ends in February. She also brought up the idea of broadcasting live music from the Cafe; music manager Amethyst Dwyer noted that PG County currently prohibits us from doing that.

Old Business

Annual Meeting: Michael H. noted that our 2020 annual meeting, originally scheduled for May, had been postponed because of the pandemic, in hopes that restrictions would eventually be relaxed enough to allow for an in-person gathering. Since it's now 2021 and we still can't gather in-person, the board feels it best simply to wait until this May and hope that we can have our meeting then, and vote for all the board and audit committee positions then.

Michael H moved that, due to the pandemic and resulting state and local regulations restricting in-person gatherings since March 2020, the New Deal Cafe board of directors hold an annual membership meeting in May of 2021. Dorian W seconded, and all board members approved the motion unanimously.

New Business

Cafe renovations and improvements: Michael H noted that the board has been discussing and researching potential renovations and improvements to the Cafe, since many projects are long overdue and the pandemic-related closure provides a unique opportunity to get these done. Former board member Nancy Melandry has graciously agreed to coordinate this effort. She and Michael H. recently met with the contractor who renovated the Old Greenbelt Theater's terrazzo floors (who comes highly recommended by city and theater officials), and the contractor provided a written proposal to repair, resurface and re-seal the Cafe's floors for \$9,700. Nancy noted that this figure was far less than estimates she had been given by another contractor to install new flooring, and that the restored terrazzo would be far more durable and low-maintenance than new flooring.

Dorian W made a motion that the board authorize spending up to \$10,000 for the restoration of the terrazzo floors. Diana M. seconded the motion. After a discussion about approaching the Cafe's landlord for help with paying for these and other potential renovations, the board unanimously approved the motion.

New Vendor Search: Aileen K. noted that the board has been doing outreach and meeting with potential new food vendors for the Cafe. She said there is nothing to announce now, but the board is excited by the interest in the position, and asked members to continue sharing news of this opportunity with potential vendors.

Next Meeting: scheduled for Jan. 25

Adjourned at 7:18pm

Submitted 1/5/21 by M. Cheater; approved 1/25/21