

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting (online)
Monday, June 28, 2021

MINUTES

Attendees

Board of Directors: Michael Hartman (President), Mark Cheater (secretary), Dorian Winterfeld (Treasurer), Katy Gaughan, John Campanile

Audit Committee: Mike Stark, Susan Harris, John Appiah-Duffel

Music Manager: Amethyst Dwyer

FONDCA: Meg Haney

Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket/Cafe Food & Beverage Manager: Dan Gilotte

Visitors: Michael Travis, Connie Davis, Johanna Goderre, Terry Goodnow, Abby Crowley, Karen Gregoire, Rebecca Holober, Barry Holober, Lore Rosenthal, Claude Aubert, Ellen Weiss, Ray Zamuto, Kathy Bartolomeo, Carla Monardes, Sandy Irving,

Call to order – 6:33 pm

Approval of minutes of 5/24/21 board meeting

John C-- move; Dorian W.--2nd / approved unanimously

Reports

President: We recently signed a contract with the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, who will take over the Cafe's food and beverage operation. We are nearly done with our cosmetic and replacement work at the Cafe, and we have also done a deep clean of the kitchen and storage area floors, countertops and appliances. We have applied for forgiveness for our federal PPP1 loan, and we held our membership meeting on June 6. The board continues to hold weekly work sessions.

Treasurer: We currently have bank balances of about \$142,000, and debts of about \$210,000. Our federal EIDL loan repayments have been deferred for a year by the Small Business Administration. We will apply for forgiveness of our federal PPP2 loan as soon as we are permitted. We have applied for the federal Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program, and are waiting to hear back.

Secretary: Thanked everyone for participating in the membership meeting, especially membership registrar Bill Jones and online election coordinator Johanna Goderre.

Audit Committee: The new committee had its first meeting. Glad that the election of board and audit committees went well at the membership meeting. Working on a written report covering 2020-2021.

Music Manager: Chomping at the bit to schedule music, but we're still waiting for PG County to approve our entertainment permit. (They are charging us the 2020 fee for the permit, as well as 2021, even though we weren't allowed to have music for most of 2020.) We have tentatively

scheduled the Crazy Quilt festival for Oct. 9 (assuming the county approves our entertainment permit before then.)

FONDCA: The Blues Festival has been scheduled for Sept. 25. Bands have been lined up, but there will not be vendors this year. Our new arts coordinator, Shaymar Higgs, has installed artwork in the Cafe windows, and is planning to do a new art show related to the Blues Festival.

Old Business

Cafe Re-opening: Dan G. said that the recent job fair event went well. The staff will start coffee/espresso training soon. The vision for opening is to phase in both hours and offerings, starting with a limited menu and gradually adding items. The hope is to have a ‘soft’ (un-advertized) opening in late July, with coffee drinks, smoothies, bagels and some other items available during morning/day hours, and then expand to evening hours and dinner menu items.

New Business

Piano Work: Volunteer Michael Travis, a piano technician with 45 years of experience, briefed the board on his work on the Cafe’s piano, including re-stringing and other remedial efforts. The board thanked him for his efforts, and for purchasing the new piano strings.

National Night Out: This event, held on the first Tuesday in August, was originally designed for law enforcement and the community to interact and have fun. John C. proposed that the Cafe have a presence at this event.

Labor Day Weekend: Board members have been in touch with the city’s Labor Day committee. We’re told there will be a parade, some food offerings (food trucks), a craft day, and a community info day. At present, they don’t have plans to offer music. If members want to help organize Cafe participation in the parade, the board welcomes their assistance.

Next Meeting: July 26.

Adjourned at 7:47pm

Submitted 7/25/21 by M. Cheater