

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting (online)
Monday, Oct. 25, 2021

MINUTES

Attendees

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

Audit Committee: John Appiah-Duffell

Cafe Music Coordinator: Amethyst Dwyer

Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket/Cafe Food & Beverage Manager: Dan Gillotte, and staffer Carla Monardes

FONDCA: Meg Haney

Cafe Arts Coordinator: Shaymar Higgs

Visitors: Frank Kayser, Brett McCoy, Michael Travis, Jay Bellamy, Catherine Allen, Brandon Cole, Alan Zambreny, Lore Rosenthal, Bill Jones, Johanna Goderre, Tom Jones, Terri Goodnow, Tom LeaMond, Susan Harris, Tina Van Pelt, Sandy Irving, Greg Meyer, Ed Crowley

Call to order – 6:34 pm

Approval of minutes of 9/27/21 board meeting

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

Reports

President: Michael H. reminded everyone that the Cafe is a member-owned cooperative, and that means that members are responsible for keeping the cooperative viable. Asked members to volunteer, as we now need volunteers more than ever. Also asked for everyone's patience, given the many challenges the pandemic has imposed on all businesses; and encouraged anyone who has feedback to share it with the board and Dan via www.newdealcafe.com/about-us/cafe-feedback/.

Treasurer: Dorian W. said our bank balances currently total around \$114,000 and our debts are about \$194,000. Still waiting to hear about forgiveness of our PPP 2 loan.

Secretary: Mark C. reminded everyone that the deadline for the monthly newsletter is three days before the end of each month. Introduced Susan Harris, who is a member of the Cafe communications and marketing committee. Susan gave an update on her work to update the website, raise the Cafe's profile on social media, and promote the Cafe on Greenbelt Online and Greenbelt Access Television (GATe). The board thanked Susan for her excellent work.

Audit Committee: John A-D reminded everyone that Audit still has a vacancy; anyone that's interested, or has concerns about the Cafe, should send an email to audit@newdealcafe.com.

Cafe Manager: Dan G. thanked customers for feedback. Reminded everyone that this is one of the most difficult times for businesses in modern history. In addition to the direct challenges posed by Covid, there are also serious labor and supply shortages and bottlenecks affecting Cafe

operations. We understand people want things to go back to normal, but that's not happening anywhere right now. In the meantime, there is a plan and a way forward. Music is coming back, and the bar is now serving draft beer. He reminded folks that they're welcome to order drinks/food and hang out in the back room on nights when there isn't entertainment scheduled. He said that more lunch and dinner menu options will be offered in Nov/Dec.

FONDCA: Meg H reports that the Crazy Quilt Festival on Oct. 9 went well, and bands were very pleased with tips. Looking forward to the Crazy Quilt festival on Oct. 9. Shaymar H said there will be a reception on Sunday for the "All That Jazz" artists displaying in the front room. He outlined his exhibition plans for the coming months, including shows by an art therapist, a group show in January, and a show by Roosevelt High students in the spring.

Old Business

Crazy Quilt Festival: Katy G said the event was a big success, with great turnout, and raised over \$1,000 for the Cafe. She thanked everyone who helped, and said she hoped the festival will turn into an annual fundraiser for the Cafe.

New Business

Covid Monitor Volunteers: John C. said about 14 folks had volunteered so far, but we need more to cover the increasing number of events to be scheduled in the Cafe.

Sound Tech Volunteers: Dorian W. said he's encouraged by the response to our call for volunteers, and welcomes other folks who are interested in learning and/or volunteering to do sound. He is holding training sessions prior to and during the Open Mics on Tuesday nights. Frank Kayser read a prepared statement objecting to the Cafe's use of volunteer sound engineers, and objecting to the Cafe's policy of requiring proof of Covid vaccination or negative PCR test for entry to the back room for scheduled entertainment.

Next Meeting: Nov. 22 at 6:30pm.

Adjourned at 8:13pm

Submitted 11/19/21 by M. Cheater; approved 11/22/21