

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting (online)
Monday, Nov. 21, 2021

MINUTES

Attendees

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

Audit Committee: Mike Stark

Cafe Music Coordinator: Amethyst Dwyer

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

FONDCA: Meg Haney

Visitors: Stuart Johnson, Frank Kayser, Lore Rosenthal, Tom Jones, Susan Harris, Abby Crowley, Jen Loss, Joe Harris, Sue Zwicker, Connie Davis, Sean McCartney, Raven Eyes Cagle, Barry and Rebecca Holober

Call to order – 6:31 pm

Approval of minutes of 10/25/21 board meeting

Dorian W– move; Katy G.--2nd / approved unanimously

Reports

President: Michael H. recapped several recent Cafe actions/accomplishments: lifting capacity limits for the back room, booking more bands, hosting the Utopia Film Festival, recruiting new volunteer sound techs, tabling at the Farmers Market, working on securing additional funding from local and federal grant programs. He thanked all those who have volunteered to be Covid monitors, and John C. for leading that effort. He encouraged anyone who has feedback on the Cafe 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 \$108,000 and our debts are about \$195,000. Still waiting to hear about forgiveness of our federal PPP 2 loan.

Secretary: Mark C. reminded everyone that the deadline for the monthly newsletter is three days before the end of each month. He also encouraged everyone to donate to the Cafe on Giving Tuesday (Nov. 30).

Audit Committee: Mike S. reminded everyone to use the online feedback form at www.newdealcafe.com/about-us/cafe-feedback/ for any comments or questions about the Cafe. He said that Audit still has a vacancy; anyone that's interested in joining the committee should send an email to audit@newdealcafe.com.

Cafe Manager: Dan G. reminded everyone that since the Co-op took over management of the food and beverage operation in July, they have been paying most of the Cafe's expenses—rent, utilities, etc.--thus helping to stabilize the Cafe's finances. He thanked the organizers and participants of the Utopia Film Festival and the weekly Open Mics for bringing business to the

Cafe. He reminded folks that the Cafe's back room is available for group meetings, political events, family parties, etc. He also reviewed roles and responsibilities of the Cafe under the management agreement: the Greenbelt Co-op is responsible for food and beverages; and the Cafe board makes decisions around Covid policies (room capacity, vaccination status, etc.) and music/entertainment. He said that silverware and plates are coming this week, reviewed seasonal beers now available, and announced that more new menu items are coming in December.

FONDCA: Meg H announced that there would be a reception for the artists currently exhibiting in the Cafe on Dec. 12 from 3 to 5pm.

Music Coordinator: Amethyst D. announced that music events are ramping up, with bands booked almost every weekend starting in December. She thanked the Open Mic hosts for their efforts in keeping the program going online during the pandemic, and being the first ones to start in-person performances in October. She reviewed upcoming bands and encouraged everyone to regularly check the Cafe's event calendar: <https://www.newdealcafe.com/events/calendar/>. She reminded everyone to bring their vaccination card for entry to the back room during live performances. She also announced that, after 11 years, she is retiring from her position, but promised to help make a smooth transition to the next coordinator. The board thanked her for her hard work and dedication, and asked anyone who might be interested in the position to email boardofdirectors@newdealcafe.com.

Old Business

Covid Monitor Volunteers: John C. thanked everyone who has volunteered, and said he now has about 20 on his team, but with an increasing number of events on the calendar he asked more folks to consider volunteering to ensure coverage.

New Business

Development Committee: Katy G. said the board has realized it needs to do fundraising in a more intentional way, as the Cafe has lots of expenses and needs to find ways of paying for those. As a result, the Cafe is forming a development committee to come up with a fundraising strategy and explore all the financial resources that might be available to us. If you have fundraising experience and/or are interested in learning more, please contact the board at boardofdirectors@newdealcafe.com.

Next Meeting: Dec. 27 at 6:30pm.

Adjourned at 7:42pm

Submitted 12/22/21 by M. Cheater; approved at 12/27/21 board meeting