

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting (online)
Monday, Jan. 24, 2022

MINUTES

Attendees

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

Audit Committee: John Appiah-Duffell, Mike Stark

Cafe Music Coordinator: Absent

Cafe Food & Beverage Manager: Dan Gillotte

FONDCA: Absent

Visitors: Donna Hoffmeister, Lore Rosenthal, Susan Harris, Abby Crowley, Ed Crowley, Connie Davis, Barry and Rebecca Holober, Barbara Glick, Brett McCoy, Carla Monardes, Annie Haber, Jay Bellamy, Sandy Irving, Amy Drew, Margaret Benefiel, Ken Haase, Bill Jones, Johanna Goderre, Tom Jones, Raven Eyes Cagle, Rick Norris

Call to order – 6:33 pm

Approval of minutes of 12/27/21 board meeting: *approved unanimously*

Reports

President: Michael H. said he is excited about the Cafe, and encouraged by the support the Cafe is receiving from the community. He encouraged everyone to give feedback to the board through the Cafe's web feedback form (www.newdealcafe.com/about-us/cafe-feedback/) and in person.

Treasurer: Dorian W. reviewed our bank balances and debt, and announced that we had received forgiveness for our second federal Paycheck Protection Program loan (about \$15,000) and received a \$12,000 federal EIDL grant, but that our debts still exceed our bank balances by more than \$60,000. There was a discussion about the need for developing an annual budget.

Secretary: Mark C. reminded everyone that the deadline for the monthly newsletter is three days before the end of each month.

Audit Committee: John A-D reminded everyone that the Audit Committee is still seeking a third member; anyone interested should send an email to audit@newdealcafe.com.

Cafe Manager: Dan G. said the month of January had been challenging, with business significantly down because of the omicron surge and the cancellation of live performances. The good news is that former employee Raul Baptiste has been hired as the we Cafe supervisor, and that new menu items are being rolled out: build your own salads, house-made vegan BBQ tofu and vegan mac-and-cheese, and gluten-free bagel thins and muffins. He thanked patrons for complying with the Cafe's mask and vaccination policies, and reminded everyone that the vast majority of the Cafe's expenses are now being paid by the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, which runs the Cafe's food and beverage operation.

FONDCA: (no attendees)

Old Business

Music Coordinator: Dorian W said the board has received many good resumes for this opening, and the search committee has conducted a first round of interviews and narrowed the field down to four finalists. The plan is to pick a new coordinator by the end of January.

New Business

Resumption of Live Music: Mark C outlined the board's plans to resume live performances, in light of the rapid decline in Covid cases and hospitalizations. Music will resume on Feb. 4, and the board will continue its policy of requiring proof of vaccination for entry, and will continue to enforce the county's mandate for mask-wearing indoors when not actively eating or drinking. In response to requests from patrons, management and performers, performance times have been shifted forward by half an hour: Tues Open Mics from 7 to 9:30pm, Weds and Thurs 7 to 9pm, Fri and Sat 8 to 11pm, and Sunday 6 to 8pm. (Please check the Cafe's event calendar at www.newdealcafe.com/events/calendar/ for any exceptions to this schedule.) Closing times for the Cafe will remain unchanged.

Next Meeting: Feb. 28 at 6:30pm.

Adjourned at 7:13pm

Submitted 2/24/22 by M. Cheater; approved 2/28/22