

1 **BRIARPATCH COOPERATIVE OF NEVADA COUNTY, INC.**
2 **Board of Directors Regular Meeting**
3 **MINUTES January 30th, 2018**
4

5 **Please refer to Digital Recording for additional details of this meeting.**
6

7 **Directors Present:** Jonathan Collier, Kali Feiereisel, Alana Lucia, Lew Sitzer, Katie Turner,
8 Alan Weisberg
9

10 **Absent:** Mark Fenton, Kwong Chew, Richard Drace, Chris Maher
11

12 **Managers & Guests Present:** Akim Aginsky, Kat Bass, Kritters Belvin, David Benson, Gwen
13 Birk, Margaret Campbell, Grayson Curtis, Andrea Echegaray, LeeAnne Haglund, Sandra
14 Higareda, Emily Koller, Deena Miller, Kale Riley, Mo Tebbe, Brett Torgrimson, Allie Weaver
15

16 **1.0 Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Alana Lucia, Vice President, at
17 6:00p.m.
18

19 Lew Sitzer presented this month's opening quote(s):
20

21 “To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human
22 history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, and
23 kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If
24 we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those time
25 and places - and there are so many - where people have behaved magnificently, this gives
26 us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of world in a
27 different direction.” - Howard Zinn
28

29 **2.0 Owner Forum: Public Comment/Communications to the Board:**
30

31 **3.0 Reminders and Check-in:**
32

33 February: NC Sustainable Food & Farm Conference (2/9/18 – 2/11/18); Board Candidate
34 Application Deadline (2/13/18); Co-op Love Tabling Survey (2/14/18); Sac CBL Co-op Café
35 (2/24/18); Preliminary Patronage Dividends
36

37 March: Candidate Orientation (TBD); Election Notice Mailed to Owners (3/26/18); Article
38 for Annual Report (reminder to BOD President); Ends Report; Admin Assistant Request
39 BOD to Bring BOD Binders to April Meeting for Updating.
40

41 April: BOD Candidate Campaign (4/1/18-5/15/18); 2018 CCCD – San Diego (4/27/18-
42 4/29/18); Candidate Forum (4/28/18/); Annual Report to BOD Members; Confirm Final
43 Patronage Dividends
44

45 CCMA (Consumer Cooperative Management Association) Conference – Interested in
46 Attending: Alana, Mark, Kali, Jonathan, Alan, Katie, Richard, and Chris are interested in
47 attending.
48

1 Co-op Love Tabling Survey: February 14th from 10am - 6pm, the Co-op Love Tabling
2 survey will take place. One more volunteer is needed from the Board for the time slot of
3 12pm - 2pm.
4

5 **4.0 Consent Agenda:**

- 6
- 7 1. Approve January Agenda
- 8 2. Approve December Minutes
- 9 3. Board Performance Monitoring Survey; C-4: Alan Weisberg voted the opposite of what
10 he intended on C-4.1, and requested to pull this off the Consent Agenda. Kat to edit his
11 initial response from “Rarely” to “Always”.
12

13 **MOTION: Katie Turner moved to approve the 2018-01-30 Consent agenda items as**
14 **amended with the removal of the Board Performance Monitoring Survey; C-4, Lew**
15 **Sitzer seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Kali Feiereisel abstained due**
16 **to being absent from the December Board meeting.**
17

18 **5.0 Study & Engagement:**

19

20 **5.1 Local Farmers Awarded Scholarships to Eco-farm by NCG & BriarPatch:** Local
21 Farmers Grayson Curtis, Flying V Farm; Kale Riley, Mountain Bounty Farm; Kritters Belvin,
22 Mountain Bounty Farm; Deena Miller, Sweet Roots Farm; Emily Koller, Riverhill Farm; and
23 Sandra Higareda, Higareda Family Farm all came the Board meeting to share their
24 experiences and gratitude for the Eco-farm scholarships awarded by NCG & BriarPatch
25 Co-op.
26

27 **6.0 Board Business:**

28

29 **6.1 Final Polling of Interest – Candidacy / Officer:** Mark Fenton and Richard Drace are
30 both running in the 2018 Election. Lew Sitzer is not.
31

32 Richard Drace is interested in remaining Board President, Mark Fenton is interested in
33 remaining Board Treasurer, Katie Turner is interested in remaining Board Secretary, and
34 Alana Lucia is interested in remaining Vice President.
35

36 **6.2 Active Board Recruitment: Potential Candidate Mixer / Q&A Debrief**

37 The Potential Board Candidate Informational Event took place on Thursday, January 11th
38 from 6-8pm in the BriarPatch Community Room. There were six potential Board
39 candidates, seven current Directors, and one staff member present. The overall event was
40 a success: good content and good discussion.
41

42 **6.3 CDS Co-op Café: Feb. 24**

43 The CDS Co-op Café is taking place on Saturday, February 24th, at the Sacramento Natural
44 Foods Co-op. The Board and some key support staff have been asked to attend. Jonathan,
45 Katie, Alana, Andrea, Alan will definitely attend.
46

47 **6.4 CBL 2017 Q4 Report:** A question arose about the stated Board Retreat date of
48 Saturday, August 5th, 2017, which appears to be a typo. The Board would like to start
49 working on a date for the next retreat at the February Board meeting.
50

1 **7.0 Accountability - Reports: Committee Reports, Recommendations, & Actions**

2
3 **7.1 Owner Engagement Committee Report (January):** The Co-op Love Tabling survey
4 is coming up on February 14th, from 10am-6pm in front of the store. It will be the same
5 process as last year including wildflower seeds and candy in exchange for customers
6 writing a valentine to BriarPatch about why they love the Co-op. Due to the patio opening
7 up and the big planter being removed, wheel barrows full of dirt will be brought in for the
8 garden of valentines to be displayed in.

9
10 **7.2 Board Development Committee Report (December):**

11
12 **8.0 Accountability - GM:**

13
14 **8.1 FYI Report: Operational Points of Interest to the Board**

15 Adopt-A-Highway - From Sacramento Street to Idaho Maryland on highway 49, there will
16 be a BriarPatch-sponsored Adopt a Highway section of the highway where the Co-op will
17 pay for that area to be cleaned, planted, and maintained. Freeway signs will showcase
18 BriarPatch's new logo.

19
20 2017 Sales were an amazing \$32,713.276, which was a 6.4% growth, significantly higher
21 than budgeted growth of 4%.

22
23 Alan noted that he has received comments from three or four people regarding how nice it
24 was that BriarPatch donated snacks and fruit to SYRCL for the Wild and Scenic Film
25 Festival.

26
27 Kali noted that it was fantastic to see such a large Nevada County presence at Eco-farm
28 this year, and all of the support that BriarPatch provides to local farmers.

29
30 **8.2 B-9 Emergency GM Succession Monitoring Report:** This monitoring report is
31 focused on the Board's B-9 policy that states that the GM shall not fail to provide a
32 succession plan that designates not less than one other manager sufficiently familiar with
33 Board and GM issues and processes to enable her/him to take over with reasonable
34 proficiency as an interim GM.

35
36 **MOTION: Low Sitzer moved to approve the B-9 Monitoring Report as presented, Katie**
37 **Turner seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

38
39 **9.0 Development Planning (Open Session):**

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41 **9.1 Development Progress Update:** Andrea provided the Board with a schematic of the
42 proposed work for the refrigeration, ADA access and delivery yard remodel project. We are
43 currently in the design process. Once the drawings are finalized, there will be a cost
44 estimate and Andrea will do her proforma work to determine the financial impact on the Co-
45 op. This will happen in February. The next step is to go out to bid, select the general
46 contractor and refine the costs a second time. The general contractor will then select the
47 sub-contractors, get permits together, and then a better cost will be provided prior to start of
48 construction. This should be a short project, with actual construction spanning 1-2 months.

49
50 **10.0 Executive Session (Closed Session):**

