



Old Creamery Co-op 2019 Annual Meeting Notes

Sunday, April 28th, 4PM
Cummington Community House

Board members present: Kim Tobin, Peter Feitner, Peg Cowen, Wil Hastings, Fletcher Schneeflock, Christine Doktor, Lori Holmes

Meeting notes:

-Kim opened the meeting by introducing the candidates in a contested election: six contestants for four seats. Kim Bode, Christine Doktor (incumbent), Alix Nelson, Fletcher Schneeflock (incumbent), Sadie Stull, and Kalyan Uprichard. Acknowledgment to fellow Board members, commonality is a key to success. Acknowledgment to Karl and Seth.

-Approval of 2018 minutes

-Kim Tobin's speech: Community and culture are a challenge; ensuring viability is a basic prerequisite to continuing to operate; Being all things to all people is not financially viable; need to embrace a business model that is self-sustaining. 2019 a make or break year. (See Kim's notes for her speech.)

-Karl: Thanked staff for tremendous cooperation. Also thanked volunteers. Positive group energy.

Introduced Chef Patti (not in attendance) as the new Kitchen Manager: worked at the Creamery as a cook 20 years ago. Seth is still working, since the newly hired bookkeeper had health problems and left.

-Wil: Synopsis of financial operations since inception. Outside accountant's reports are available through Seth. 2012: 1.25 million for start-up, with overruns on renovation. 2014: over \$300,000 raised from community, and Creamery has ridden on this since, but now gone. Maturing member owner loans cannot be budgeted for payment from Creamery operations. Need new form of capitol financing: suggested a pool of funders who would make partial contributory loans as older loans mature.

-Peg: Introduced the Outreach activity which involved volunteer readers reading excerpts from interviews held with 10 local residents expressing negative community perception. Annual meeting attendants then formed small groups. each with a note taker, to discuss their reactions. (See Peg's notes for a recap.)

Meeting adjourned at 5:35PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori Holms, Clerk