

2021 Old Creamery Cooperative Annual Meeting, 7/11/21
President's Remarks - Katy Eiseman

Thank you all for joining our Annual Meeting via Zoom. We have every intention of having next year's Annual Meeting in person next April. Most of you know that last year's meeting was postponed for six months because of the pandemic. We wanted to have this one as close to April as possible, aiming to get back to "normal" for 2022.

Normal, I say. What is normal for our Co-op? All of us here have been involved in shaping our co-op's reality in some way – whether shopping, volunteering, governance, operations, financial support, or all of the above. The Co-op has had some unexpected turns every year, and I don't need to tell you what an extraordinary year this has been. But I am feeling optimistic about where we are in a way that I haven't before.

I do want to take a few moments to thank some of the people who helped us get to where we are today. That starts with Toni and Sandra, who stepped in as an interim management team last October, followed by Scot and the support that he brought with him from Columinate.

We owe a special shout out to Patti Waters for helping with our GM search, which culminated in our hiring Lloyd, who you're about to hear from. Lloyd has done a great job soaking up everything it takes to run the place, and the respect between him and the rest of the team is palpable. I want to acknowledge everything that our staff has endured and taken on during the pandemic and the multiple changes in management – we appreciate the years of commitment from Annette and Steve and others who have moved on from the Creamery, as well as everyone who is still here making things work better every day.

I also greatly appreciate the different perspectives and contributions of all of the Board members I've served with, and I want to thank in particular Peter Feitner who has decided not to seek another term this year, after serving as a board member and previously as board president. We'll continue to look to Peter for his hands-on knowledge and willingness to use it to fix things and help out logistically. Thank you, Peter.

As the world tries to regain some sense of normalcy, the Creamery will consider the logistics and risks involved in reintroducing indoor dining; we will look to reactivate committees that have gone dormant during the pandemic; and we'll look at other ways to once again be a more active hub and resource for our community.