

YPSILANTI FOOD COOP ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 24, 2012, 6:00 P.M. AT THE LADIES' LITERARY CLUB

Liz Dahl MacGregor called the meeting to order.
Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.
2011 Annual Meeting minutes were approved.

Liz Dahl MacGregor gave a Board of Directors report

2012 is the year of the Coop.

Last year we kicked off a member loan campaign to fund Coop expansion. This was a success, and in record time. Sales growth slowed for a bit, but then picked up once new coolers were installed and running. The expansion is continuing, and we'll hear more about that from Corinne.

The Board has seen changes, too. Last year we left the annual meeting w/ six of seven seats filled. We appointed David Choberka. A second Director resigned in order to move to Manhattan, and so the Board then appointed Lee Azus.

We also have our first new board president in 10 years: Liz Dahl MacGregor. We're working to be able to implement some new systems and planning on behalf of the member-owners.

Liz also spoke about local food policy and her engagement with it. The Washtenaw County Food Policy committee has been formed, and Liz will possibly be appointed to it.

The board hopes to be able to continue developing and growing, and as such, be the best possible stewards of the Coop.

Corinne Sikorski presented her General Manager's report.

2011 was an exciting year for us, with rapid growth: to \$1.36 million in sales. Corinne gave a brief overview of Coop sales growth in the last several years. A document describing the next steps to the Coop expansion was handed out, and Corinne walked us through a slideshow of various images of the expansion work.

What's happening now? We're still working on finishing Phase I (*see list of remaining tasks on handout*). And then we'll move onto Phase II (*handout*). More details are in the annual report. Question from Laura: Will we install a new bathroom? Yes, says Corinne, eventually.

Karin Keim gave a report on Coop finances.

Karin walked us through the Annual Report financials (*attached*). We're in a good financial position, even after all the expansion costs, which is great news.

Lisa Bashert talked to us about International Year of the Coop.

The UN declared it, and we're celebrating it in Ypsi as well as throughout the world. The idea: to get the attention of businesses, government, and individuals and teach them about how the cooperative model of business is great for every community and culture.

Corinne read aloud the City of Ypsilanti's Declaration of 2012 as the year of The Ypsilanti Food Cooperative.

In the fall we'll have some events to celebrate the International Year of the Coop.

Coop history and updates:

The *Food for Change* trailer was shown.

Historic Marker: "Historic Structure" status and marker was granted to the Coop and our building.

Sustainability/Honey Bee project. Lisa referred everyone to the annual report's info on the Coop's Honey project. Hive collapse is not so mysterious: it has to do with industrial agricultural practices, monocultural crops, etc. Colony collapse continues. However, we've learned to breed our own queens, and we've continued to educate beekeepers in the community. We've raised seven queens and five colonies from the original super colony, which itself was resident in the Coop building for 20-odd years. Lisa will do regular reports on the Facebook page, for anyone who's interested in the Honey project and our bees. She showed a video on "swarm catching" and talked us through the process of her capturing a swarm at the Frog Island community gardens.

Dave Strenski gave an update on Solar Ypsi. The Google video has gone viral, and has caused Dave to switch from being an engineer to being a marketer of solar power. Ypsi's getting a lot of national exposure because of it. Seventeen more solar panels will soon be set up on the roof of the Coop. Dave would also like to power some part of the Heritage Festival with solar panels. Solar Ypsi is now on iTunes University. Search for "Solar Ypsi" to find a one-hour presentation about solar power.

Board of Directors Election:

Mike Gelletly and Karin Keim walked everyone through the election process. We have a quorum. On even years we have four open seats, on odd years two, explained Mike. This year we have six open seats, due to it being an even year (2012), and we have had two appointees who need to be approved via the election process.

Heartfelt thanks and a farewell to Mike Gelletly.

Corinne talked about Mike Gelletly and his much-needed, gracious service to the Coop. Mike has been involved with the various permutations of the Coop since the 1970s, and he served as a board member for 12. Thank you Mike! We couldn't have done it without you.

Dennis moved that we wrap up meeting and . . . eat! This was unanimously approved.