



Board of Directors Open Session Minutes – January 23, 2023

Vice President Michelle Prosek called the January 23, 2023, meeting of the Outpost Natural Foods Board of Directors to order at 6:04 pm.

Board Members

Banks, Rick – present
Drews, Melissa – present
Fisher, Ashley – absent
Friedrich, Lori - present
Keefe, Jenny – present via video conference
Meier, Eno – absent
Merritt, Barbara – present
Prosek, Michelle – present
Spencer, Doug – present

Management in Attendance

Pam Mehnert, General Manager – present
Lisa Draeger, Office Manager and Executive Assistant – present

Owners in Attendance

Rebecca Guralnick, owner #50998
Tony Myers, owner #56981
Duncan Shrout, owner #31128
Brenda Washburn, owner #40681

OUTPOST LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT READ BY MELISSA DREWS

Outpost Natural Foods acknowledges that our four store locations and central offices occupy the ancestral home of Indigenous peoples who were forced from their land with the arrival of white settlers. These tribal nations include Ojibwe, Kickapoo, Peoria, Potawatomi, Menominee, Miami, Ho-Chunk, and Sioux. Descendants and members of these tribal nations continue to live in Milwaukee and its neighboring towns and communities. Many are owners of our co-op and shop at our stores. Their patronage contributes to Outpost's success and the resiliency of our community.

APPROVE AGENDA AND ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS

Consent Items

- December Minutes – Open and Closed Sessions

Rick Banks made a motion to approve the agenda and meeting minutes. Lori Fredrich seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



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COMMITTEE WORK, BOARD TASKS

Engagement

Melissa Drews provided an update following a recent Engagement Committee meeting. The Annual Meeting will be an in-person-only event on March 5 from 1:00 to 4:30 pm at the new Hunger Task Force facility at 5000 W Electric Avenue in Milwaukee. The agenda will include tours of the Hunger Task Force site, food and beverage, a DJ, a Board info table, an “I Love Outpost” photo area, and a prize drawing. The hope is to have 2 or 3 directors staffing the Board info table, so shifts will be worked out. There may also be an opportunity for candidates to meet owners at the Board table. Ideas for talking points are provided in the meeting packet. If anyone has additional thoughts about what questions might come up, please let the Committee know.

The Committee is also working on bringing back the Board blog with the goal of helping owners understand the work of the Board. Three ideas for topics are: the Board’s role in hiring a new GM; why owners should attend the Outpost Annual Meeting; and why their vote matters. Mari Wood will be providing statistical data about the reach of the blog.

Nominations

Jenny Keefe reported that we have four official Board-approved candidates. There is an opportunity for two applicants to petition, although we haven’t heard anything back from them since they were notified. Joe Laedtke, who has done photography and videography for us in the past, will again be doing the photos and video bios of the candidates. Agenda time will be provided at the Annual Meeting to introduce the candidates.

BOARD CLOSED SESSION: Begin 6:15 pm

- Quarterly Treasurer Training
- Defining Our “Why”
- Future Planning

BOARD CLOSED SESSION: End at 7:26 pm

FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING PREP

- Review of upcoming agenda items for the February meeting.

BOARD CLOSED SESSION: Begin at 7:28 pm



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- Meeting Evaluation

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm

NEXT MEETING

The next Outpost Natural Foods Board meeting is on February 27 at 6:00 pm. Due to limited capacity in the meeting room, owners wishing to attend the meeting will be required to attend virtually. If you are an owner and you wish to attend, contact the Board two business days ahead of the Board meeting for the virtual meeting login information. For guidelines for owners' participation, or to request time on the agenda (at least 10 days in advance), please contact the Board secretary at 414-431-3377, Ext. 221.