

Oneota Community Co-op
Minutes for Regular Board Meeting
June 24, 2025, 6:00pm, Co-op Classroom

Board Members Present: Brennan Allsworth, Hannah Breckbill, Nathan Dietzenbach, Amy Grinna, Steph Hughes, Piper Wood, Carly Zierke

Board Members Absent: none

GM Present: Nate Furler

Co-op Staff: none

Member/Owners Present: none

Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Agenda

The Member Linkage committee wanted to add discussion time to the agenda. *Grinna motions to approve the amended agenda. Allsworth seconds. All ayes.*

Board Learning

There was discussion on points in D2. Specifically D2.3: “The Board will view General Manager performance as identical to organizational performance, so that organizational accomplishment of Board-stated ends and avoidance of Board-proscribed means will be viewed as successful General Manager performance.”

The board also reviewed D3. No comments on changes.

May Minutes

Amended May minutes. Fix "seven new hires" to "several new hires." Strike old board members from those in attendance. *Breckbill moves to approve the May minutes with amendments. Allsworth seconds. All ayes.*

Policy Monitoring

Breckbill motions to report compliance on D1. Allsworth seconds. All ayes.

Allsworth motions to report compliance on G1. Dietzenbach seconds. All ayes.

Policy Amendments

There were a few changes to be made to policy G1.

G1.2 missing period at end of paragraph

G1.4.1 change to: “Each month, the board will review the policy according to the board calendar. This includes the review of the policy of the month preceding the current meeting.”

Dietzenbach motions to amend G1. Allsworth seconds. All ayes.

GM Reports

L1 Report: The dates on the report for license expirations seem to be incorrect. Furler will check the dates for and present the report at July’s meeting. *Dietzenbach moves to table reporting compliance until next month. Grinna seconds. All ayes.*

L4 Report: *Dietzenbach accepts compliance on L4. Breckbill seconds. All ayes.*

Monthly Report: Sales figures are looking good. Labor as a percent of sales caught up to the budgeted level after new hires. The annual staff survey just launched. This is being conducted by our external contractor, Melanie Reid, with Columinate. Policy monitoring containing results will be reported to the board in September.

UNFI was hit with a cyberattack, and it took them out for almost a week. NCG was able to get shipments of top-selling items sent to co-ops. All in all the co-op staff handled the outage well.

Produce displays continue to be implemented with consultant Mark Mulcahy.

Staff is attending conferences over the summer. Marketing Manager Tanya O'Connor attended NCG’s Marketing Matters conference in May (Minneapolis, MN). Prepared Foods Manager Missy Palmer will be attending NCG’s Focus on Fresh conference (Minneapolis, MN) the week of the board meeting. Fresh Manager Angie Graham will be attending the Organic Produce Summit in Monterey, CA, in July. This conference is something we were fortunate to win free registration, hotel, and airfare to attend at last year’s Focus on Fresh conference.

Wood’s report from CCMA

Wood connected with the president from Lexington Co-op, whose co-op has worker-board members. They met with the administrative assistant of Seward Co-op. Chatted with Duluth Whole Foods Co-op about Round-Up and Grow the Good programs. Talked with Middlebury co-op about board/GM relations and tools that the board has created.

Board Development Committee

Discussed the strategic planning the board has done over the years. We would like to set aside some time to go over our priorities as a board.

Upcoming

Board Potluck, Sunday, July 13th, 6:00 p.m. @ Humble Hands Harvest

Co-op Potluck, Thursday, July 17th, 6:00 p.m., South Bear Farm

July Meeting (07/29/2025), 6:00pm.

Adjournment

Breckbill motions to adjourn at 7:54. Allsworth seconds. All ayes.