

**SEVANANDA NATURAL FOOD REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Tuesday, March 15th, 2022**

Board Members Present: Wanique Shabazz, Melissa Fortune, Staton Winston and Jessica McMorris.

Jasmine Simone: @7:32

Board Member Absent: Jerilyn Bell.

Non-Board: Cheranna Dottin (Board Admin), Ahzjah Simons (Cooperative Director/ General Manager)

BUSINESS: Board President Wanique Shabazz called meeting to order at 7:32pm. Quorum was met.

*Wanique Shabazz volunteers to be the cue taker and Staton Winston volunteers to be the timekeeper.*

Approving the Agenda

The Board uses the allotted time reviewing the March 2022 agenda adjusting where necessary.

Jessica McMorris motions to accept the March 2022 Board meeting agenda as sent with changes.

2nd: Staton Winston.

Votes Taken:

Jessica McMorris: Yes.

Wanique Shabazz-Yes

Jasmine Simone-Yes

Melissa Fortune-Yes

Staton Winston-Yes

*-Motion Carried.*

**Approval of the Minutes**

Item Tabled.

**GM Monitoring Report**

For March 2022, the policy monitored by our GM is as follows.

**Policy III-1 ENDS Statement**

*“Sevananda exists such that the commonwealth is sustained. The commonhealth is a community characterized by:*

*A culture of service. Knowledgeable members. A network of local, viable services. An environment that is sustainable and nourishing. Local, regional, global connectedness. Relationships which are fair, inclusive, interactive and empowering. An economy that is thriving, autonomous, and manually beneficial for all involved.*

The GM sent this report via email in advanced. She continues to present her reports to the Board reporting this policy as *“Expectations Met”.*

FYI Report

The store has been focusing on restoration. The management team and staff have been doing their due diligence to market Sevananda as we move through the restoration phase. There has been increased communications to owners through Eblast and coupons and deals pushed out through the Sevananda App. There are other projects to soon launch such as the spin the wheel campaign, loyalty program and punch cards. Once sales increase Sevananda will increase staff in marketing for Outreach purposes. Demos are about to start back as well as classes and events. Management is continuously listening to the input of shoppers and owners through surveys, reviews and feedback on social media. There will be a vendor survey that will go out soon as well. Everyone has been working together collectively to restore the state of service at the Co-op.

Board President Wanique S. announces that this would be the final meeting of the General Manager. The Board has accepted her resignation. The Board thanks Ahzjah Simon for her years of service and appreciate all she has done to move the Co-op forward. The Board is working with Columinate to support the transition with a consultant. There will be communication in the Co-options and via email to the member owners to inform them of this.

Jessica McMorris motions to approve the March 2022 GM Monitoring Report.

2nd: Staton Winston.

Votes Taken:

Jessica McMorris: Yes.

Wanique Shabazz-Yes

Jasmine Simone-Yes

Melissa Fortune-Yes

Staton Winston-Yes

*-Motion Carried.*

Jessica McMorris motions to streamline the March 2022 regular Board meeting agenda to include approval of Board minutes to email, Board Self-Assessment to April 2022 Board Meeting and to table Owner Linkage and Treasurer Report to email with follow up at the April 2022 Meeting.

2nd: Jasmine Simone.

Votes Taken:

Jessica McMorris: Yes.

Wanique Shabazz-Yes

Jasmine Simone-Yes

Melissa Fortune-Yes

Staton Winston-Yes

*-Motion Carried.*

Staton W. motions to table the Elections Committee report until the Board complete the interviews for the IGM Team.

2nd: Melissa Fortune

Votes Taken:

Jessica McMorris: Yes.

Wanique Shabazz-Yes

Jasmine Simone-Yes

Melissa Fortune-Yes

Staton Winston-Yes

*-Motion Carried.*

Discussion:

Jessica McMorris does not agree with tabling the elections until there is a new GM or IGM Team in place. The Board has requested a specific consultant with Columinate who submitted a proposal to the Board and part of her proposal is to assist the Board with elections. Jessica expresses being comfortable tabling the election until the Board starts work with that consultant. She is not comfortable with waiting until there is a IGM Team in place.

After Staton offers clarity around the timeline noting that the outline for the elections is already created; there’s a lot of involvement and coordination with operations and the IGM Team to help facilitate. Jessica changes her vote to “Yes”. Jessica recommends tabling this discussion to executive session to get input from board member Jerilyn Bell.

Staton motions to resend the motion to table the Elections Committee report until the Board complete the interviews for the IGM Team.

2nd: Melissa Fortune

Votes Taken:

Jessica McMorris: Yes.

Wanique Shabazz-Yes

Jasmine Simone-Yes

Melissa Fortune-Yes

Staton Winston-Yes

*-Motion Carried.*

**Old Business**

No Items to Report On.

***New Business***

No Items to Report On.

**Committee Chair Reports**

No Items to Report On.

**Treasurer Report**

No Items to Report On.

**Board Self-Assessment**

Tabled to April 2022 Board Meeting.

Jessica motions to adjourn the April 2022 Board meeting.

2nd: Jessica McMorris.

Votes Taken:

Jessica McMorris: Yes.

Wanique Shabazz-Yes

Jasmine Simone-Yes

Melissa Fortune-Yes

Staton Winston-Yes

*-Motion Carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

**SEVANANDA NATURAL FOOD**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTES**

**Tuesday, March 15 th, 2022**

Board Members Present: Wanique Shabazz, Melissa Fortune, Staton Winston and Jessica McMorris.

Jasmine Simone:

Board Member Absent: Jerilyn Bell.

Non-Board: Cheranna Dottin (Board Admin), Ahzjah Simons (Cooperative Director/ General Manager)

*Physical copies of each item listed in notes can be provided upon request.*

**Member Owners Present:**

Maria Sangria, A “Chi Ma’at” Dilworth, Dr Mumbi Toye, Anna Hamer, Sharlise Lowe, Charles Colpitts and Dorothea Gates.

**Member Owner Comment**

**Maria Sangria** understands that the Board purpose is to work in favor of the member Owners. She wants to know if there has been any communication for the past grievances and what the recommendations were from the NCG.

Response from Board: There was a statement received by the NCG, the collective response will be published in the next Co-options.

**Dr Mumbi** questioned when is General Manger Ahzjah Simons stepping down?

Response from Board: There was a statement received by the NCG, the collective response will be published in the next Co-options.

**Anna Hamer** states that seniors want to shop at Sevananda but are concerned about the COVID protocols.

Response from GM: Sevananda just lifted the mask policy based on mask mandate. The new updates will soon go up on the website. She will speak with management and see what the best protocol may be to ensure safety for everyone.

**GM Monitoring Report**

Policy III-1 ENDS Statement