



GreenTree Coop Board Meeting May 20, 2026

Attendance: Marilyn Yeboah, Barb Griggs, Eric Dilno, Susan Haight, Megan Fisher, Joseph Fisher, Mike Lents, Kim McBryde, Nicole Thornthwaite, Debbie Robb (Zoom), Jenny Campbell (Zoom)

1. Agenda
 - a. Joseph made a motion to approve the agenda; Barb seconded. The agenda was approved.
2. Member Input & Recap: GreenTree (GT) Annual Owner's Meeting
 - a. The Annual Owner's Meeting was a huge success.
 - b. The outdoor setting was nice, great food and set up. It was nice to see the community.
 - c. There were 133 attendees compared to 41 last year, and the total number of households was 59 compared to 26 last year. Total number of votes was 337. The event was \$600 over budget.
 - d. Feedback included that several people didn't know where GT was and didn't know that they don't need to be Owner to shop there.
 - e. Lessons learned for next year include ordering more beer, start planning earlier, and getting confirmations from the food trucks earlier.
 - f. There was a Facebook comment asking if the Board would take member input for the Annual Meeting.
 - g. GT community partners were a great addition to the event and provided an advantage because they also promoted the event.
 - h. It was a different vibe than in the past and felt like we were building community with the event.
3. Approve April Minutes & AOM Minutes
 - a. Kim made a motion to table the AOM and approve the April minutes; Barb seconded. AOM minutes will be approved at the next meeting, and the April minutes were approved.
4. Certify Election Results
 - a. Kim made a motion to certify the election results; Marilyn seconded. The election results were certified.
5. Welcome New Directors
 - a. Kim stepped down from her position on the Board.
 - b. Barb made a motion to elect Susan Haight, a runner up Board candidate, to the Board; Nicole seconded. All Board members approved Susan's election to the Board.
6. Conflict of Interest Disclosure
 - a. Sitting Board members needed to submit these forms to the GM as soon as possible.
7. Elected Board Officers
 - a. Mike will serve as the Board Chair, Joseph will serve as the Board Vice Chair, Barb will continue as the Board Treasurer, and Nicole will continue as the Board Secretary.



- b. Marilyn made a motion to approve the Board Officers' selections; Susan seconded. The Board Officers were approved.
- 8. Email Update
 - a. Nothing to report.
- 9. New Director Onboarding: GreenTree History, Governance and Current Initiatives
 - a. Megan: GT turned 56 this year. GT began as Mount Pleasant Food Co-op in 1970 and operated out of a house before moving to the corner of Franklin and Broadway, then into 214 N Franklin. GT added a deli in 2013. In 1991 the name was changed to GreenTree Grocery, then to GreenTree Co-op Grocery, and in 2020 to the current name GreenTree Co-op Market. In Dec 2021, GT moved to its current location and grew 4x bigger in square footage and doubled the staff.
 - b. Mike: To fund the expansion project the Co-op sold preferred shares and raised about \$750,000, the Board did not reach the \$1mil goal. The second attempt to sell preferred shares in 2024 helped close the gap. GT also took out loans to cover the expansion and move; approximately one million with Michigan Community Capital for the equipment in the building. Shortly after the transition from Franklin to the current location on Broadway, the GM position was left vacant, and the GT Board was tasked to find a new GM. It took about 6 months to fill the GM position (2023-2024).
 - c. The Board held a retreat last fall to get insight in the next direction for the Board to focus on post-expansion.
 - d. Policy governance structure: GT Board is a representative of the Owners, the Board is responsible for performance of the General Manager or GM. The Board hires and monitors the GM. The GM runs the store and makes operational decisions. The Board is governed by policies- 4 categories A, B,C, & D. Every month the Board monitors the GM (A & B) ends policies (GT exists for these ends), making us a community partner rather than just a grocery store. The GM reports on how GT has met these ends. C & D policies are how we work as a board and how we work with Megan.
 - e. Board administration are the items listed on the calendar for the month.
- 10. GM Report
 - a. GT still maintains a loan through Northern Initiatives, with one due next year through LEAF. GT also maintains line of credit with Isabella Bank - sitting at \$0 balance.
 - b. Columinate Financial has asked to meet with GT and the National Co-op Bank (NCB) to offer to manage GT banking. There are no plans to move anything over to NCB now, GT will revisit in a year.
 - c. Nicole made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the GM Report; Barb seconded. The GM Report was received.
- 11. Board Monitoring Report: C4 Committee Principles
 - a. There were five responses. Everyone that responded agreed to all items. 3rd interpretation says we use Robert's rules of order.
 - b. Motion to approve C4: Barb made a motion to approve the Board Monitoring Report; Susan seconded. Board Monitoring Report C4 was approved.
- 12. Board Outreach

GreenTree Co-op Market
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- a. The June Article for the GreenTree Newsletter will be Alice's statement from the Annual Owner's meeting.
- b. Saturday Samples - the Board uses this to interact with employees and shoppers with Board members volunteering one Saturday a month to hand out samples. For Saturday June 20th from 11am-1pm Nicole & Eric will hand out samples.

13. Adjournment

- a. Debbie made a motion to adjourn; Jenny seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.