



The SCOOP



What's happening at your Co-op and in your community

MAY CO-OP CLASSES



Board of Directors

Jim Smith



POLICY GOVERNANCE UPDATE

After the Fall 2015 Board offsite meeting, the Board formed a committee to improve its effectiveness in using the cooperative policy governance process. The Board felt that this work was necessary to ensure that the process is working as it should.

Policy governance is a system for defining objectives and clarifying roles and a structure for organizing the Board's efforts while delegating the operational aspects of the business to the General Manager.

The governance model is composed of four key areas or "pillars" including: Teaming, Accountable Empowerment, Democracy, and Strategic Leadership.

The committee, recently renamed the Four Pillars Committee, tackled the Teaming pillar and defined a communication process between the Board, Management and Owners. This is a foundation to the process that has to be rock solid.

The next phase for the Committee, which we are currently undertaking, is to focus on the Accountable Empowerment pillar. It is essential for the Board to define its expectations of management, assign

responsibility and review the results. As part of this next phase, the Four Pillars Committee recently completed its review and drafted changes to the L4 Financial Planning and L5 Financial Condition policies since these are key to the Board's fiduciary responsibility to the Owners. These proposed changes were presented to the Board at the April meeting for comment, possible revision, and approval.

The Financial Planning policy describes the Board's expectations of the General Manager. Most of these expectations revolve around the annual budgeting and long-term financial planning process.

It is worth mentioning that the planning policy specifies that, whenever possible, investments should be made in socially responsible initiatives and/or support other cooperatives.

The Financial Condition policy details the quarterly reporting requirements and financial prudence required by the General Manager to satisfy the policy.

In order for First Alternative to carry out its mission, the business must generate a

profit to stay in business and re-invest in the operation and community.

The Board election is almost upon us once again. There are three open positions, and next month, a special election-focused edition of the Scoop will introduce you to the candidates.

Please take some time and evaluate each candidate and **vote** for the candidates that you feel will do the best job in representing you.

Also, in addition to voting, you can support First Alternative in other ways such as by volunteering on committees or attending Board meetings. Your participation and inputs are greatly valued. 🥬



Thursday, May 4th, 12-5:30pm

South Store Meeting Room

Red Cross Blood Drive

Make your appointment by going to redcrossblood.org and help save lives.

Saturdays, May 6th & 20th, 2-4pm

North Store Meeting Room

Willamette Arts and Crafts Guild

Cost: Free and open to the public

BYO project event every 1st and 3rd Saturday. Come meet artistic people, chat and discuss possible projects. For more info, visit facebook.com/groups/WACGuild/ or contact Summer at (541) 282-4867.

Saturday, May 6th, 3-4:30pm

South Store Meeting Room

Gluten-Free Baking Class

Cost: \$10 Register on Eventbrite

The premier class in March was very well received and people are asking for more! Come and learn from Colleen, former Co-op Baker, as she leads you through preparation and baking of gluten-free pie crust and pizza dough. Bring your friends!

Wednesday, May 10th, 6:30-7:30pm

South Store Meeting Room

Autoimmune Support Group

Cost: Free and open to the public

Genuine Connection. Positive Support. Natural Healing. Hosted by Dr. Deborah Anderson, a naturopathic physician who specializes in helping women with autoimmune conditions. Space is limited. For more info and to RSVP please visit: www.DrDeborah.com/events.

Thursday, May 11th, 7-9pm

South Store Meeting Room

Modern Quilting Guild Meeting

Cost: Free and open to the public

A small but growing group of modern quilters who love quilting, fabric, and sewing who live in or around Corvallis! We formed in 2012 as a local guild of the international Modern Quilt Guild. Meetings every second Thursday as well as special events through the year. Read more about us at <http://corvallismodernquiltguild.blogspot.com/>

Sundays, beginning May 14th, 9-11am

North Store Meeting Room

Guarding the One: Daoist Quiet Sitting

Cost: Free and open to the public

This method of meditation is the fundamental basis of Daoist Internal Alchemy. It is a simple yet profoundly powerful practice. The foundation of health and longevity, Guarding the One leaves the practitioner calm and centered. Participation is on a drop-in basis and is free. For more information, contact Jeffrey Kelly at docneedlestcm@gmail.com or by phone or text at (541) 829-1985.

Saturday, May 20th, 12:30-2pm

South Store Meeting Room

Standing Up for Racial Justice

Cost: Free and open to the public

Join SURJ in education and action toward dismantling institutionalized racism. Everyone is welcome, including children. Donation \$3-\$5 (more if you can, less if you can't). FMI: www.CorvallisSURJ.org or info@CorvallisSURJ.org.

Saturday, May 27th, 12-5pm

South Store Meeting Room

Modern Quilting Guild Sew Day

Cost: Free and open to the public

Bring a project to work on and enjoy some friendly company. Read more about us at corvallismodernquiltguild.blogspot.com/. 🥬

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION 2017

Co-op Owners, exercise your rights—use your voice and vote!

All Co-op Owners can vote in our annual Board of Directors Elections.

Ballots are being sent in the mail, and will also be available in our stores

Voting will run from June 1-June 21st. Fill out your ballot and drop them in the ballot boxes at either store



THE CANDIDATES



Jim Smith
Incumbent



Erik Rose
Incumbent



David Leach
Endorsed

Look for a special Election Edition of the Scoop in June containing in-depth candidate info!

BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Owner Relations Committee The primary conduit for communications and relations between Owners and Board.
Wed. May 3rd, 11:30am South Store meeting room

Board Recruitment & Elections Committee Works to enhance Board performance and recruit qualified candidates.
Thurs. May 18th, 6pm North Store meeting room

Finance Committee Reviews, analyzes, and makes recommendations on financial matters.
Wed. May 17th, 4:30pm North Store meeting room

First Alternative Board of Directors Comprised of elected Owners, the Board puts cooperative principles into action.
Tues. May 23rd, 6pm South Store meeting room

Community Calendar on reverse side

