

Le Frigo Vert – Annual General Meeting

Monday, October 6th 2014

Facilitated by Ashley Fortier, Minutes taken by Caitlin Manicom, Ballots counted by Claire Forsythe

Quorum (30 members) reached

50% + 1 = approval

Call to Order - Meeting called to order by Ashley at 6:50pm

Approval of Agenda - Motion to approve by Vicky, seconded by George. Approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes - Last year's meeting took place on October 22, 2013 but unfortunately Le Frigo Vert's computer was destroyed in a flood and the minutes were thus lost. James reads a summary of last year's minutes. A member asks that provisions be put in place so that documents are stored in a drive/online/etc. So that something like this doesn't happen again. Collective members agree that this should and will happen. Motion to approve Lucy, seconded by Vicky. Approved unanimously.

- 1.

Annual Report including Financial Statement - Annual report given by Maria Forti.

Changes to staff, changes to store, volunteer opportunities, new products, student fee-levy which was run

Q: Can you tell which items are most popular? A: No, Frigo has an old school cash system so can only track by section not by specific items (with the exception of samosas, which have their own special category!)

Q: Have you considered some sort of open-source software so that you can better track which items sell best? A: Basically the only the way that we could do that would be to purchase a scanning system which is beyond Frigo's budget.

Q: Will you be able to make necessary upgrades to improve your stack tracking system? A: In coming years there will likely be changes in the retail sector regarding receipts so things may change then.

Q: Have you thought of reaching out to the John Molson business-management association? A: Collective member asks that we move on because these questions, while extremely important, are not really related to last year's annual report. Ashley points out that Frigo board and collective are very open to suggestions, etc. And appreciate when members are involved!

Financial statements distributed and summarized by Rachel. Frigo has had a profit in the last two years and has been able to put a significant amount into their savings. This is particularly helpful during summer periods when Frigo receives less money from student fees.

Q: What are professional fees? A: Fees for accountant and lawyer

Q: Volunteer fees? A: Volunteer honorariums for events

Q: I'm seeing miscellaneous in two places? A: Get answer for this from Rachel later (admin, etc.)

Q: Who made this? A: Veronica. Q: Is she an accountant in good standing? A: Yes (name of company)

Q: Are these audited? A: No this is a notice to reader. Q: When was the last audit performed on Frigo Vert? A: We've never had an audit (ie. Never had anyone come in and look at every single piece of paper/receipt in a year)

Q: Could you please explain the membership fee increase? A: Grad student fees – got a fee levy increase, led to an increase in approximately \$6000. Q: What kind of advertising strategy made the costs go down? A: A lot of advertising is photocopies and also put an ad the year before on Radio CKUT which explains the \$100 difference between the two years.

Q: Mention of Frigo being closed for a week for improvements – where is this represented? A: All we did was paint and move furniture around to make it spacious. Q: See material decrease, what is this? A: In 2013 did larger renovations (repaired windows, etc.), whereas in 2014 it was more painting. Q: Why did accounts receivable double? A: Not sure of this. Q: Pre-paid expenses? A: Insurance, etc. - pay from January to January of one year. Q: Property equipment? Net or gross? A: This represents after depreciation cost. Q: Did you have gain in equipment? A: No, just depreciation. Q: Do you pay interest on loans, bank charges? A: We have no loans. Interac charges, etc. Q: Accounts payable? A: When we haven't paid people yet as of the time when the financial report is drafted. This will sometimes be wages, or costs on shipping, etc. Ashley asks for a 3 minute time cap. Q: Sees terminology that is outdated. A: Rachel asks that they continue this conversation after the meeting.

Explanation of Board Responsibilities - Heather

Meet once a month, meetings about 2 hours long, food, subsidized transportation. plan an event that the collective might not have the creative energy to put together, for example board did workshop series last year. As a member of the BoD you are legally responsible for the organization. Product research, can think beyond workshop series, BoD gets facilitation and anti-oppression training, conflict-resolution, BoD will also work on the constitution as well (policy work, etc.) On BoD you are considered you a volunteer which means you also get a Frigo discount.

Q: More details regarding time commitment? A: Things change depending on the time of year and what projects are on the go. Definitely at least 2/hrs once a month but sometimes more (for example during fee-levy time last year BoD members put in more time) Email contact beyond meetings is of course also required.

Board Nominations, Speeches and Voting

Ashley explains election procedures. Board must have minimum of 5 members and maximum of 9. Always has to be majority Concordia students on the board. Concordia student who has not opted out is considered a student member, others who have paid their membership fees are considered community members. You can block someone running – 1/3 or more votes cast against them renders this candidate ineligible. If someone is not blocked they must be voted in 50% + 1.

Q: How much notice is given before monthly board meetings? A: A lot of notice is given! Usually decided by consensus at previous BoD meeting but if not will be decided over email at least 2 to 3 weeks in advance.

Nominees:

Danielle Nancarrow (in absentia) – nominated by Maria, seconded by Ari (student)

Hilary King (in absentia) - nominated by Alex, seconded by Maria (student)

Vicky Rodgers - nominated by herself, seconded by George (student)

Ari Isensee– nominated by Morgan, seconded by Ari(student)

Morgan Peniuta – nominated by Ari, seconded by Morgan (student)

Genevieve Nadeau – Bonin nominated by herself, seconded by Lucy (student)

Jes Dolan - nominated by Ari, seconded by Alex (student)

Lucy Marshall-Kiparissis - nominated by herself seconded by Genevieve (student)

Tram Nghiem – nominated by Heather, seconded by Lucy (student)

Veronique Martin – nominated by herself, seconded by Adele (community)

Danielle N. A 2nd year student at Concordia, anti-capitalist & anti-authoritarian, appreciates for many years, inspired by Frigo, interested in influencing broader community at Concordia and beyond, interested in gaining experience, anti – oppression!

Hilary – has been on the boD for the past 2 years. Admires Frigo, it is close to her heart, would like to help with workshop series and other events

Vicky – John Molson Psych Management major, minor in Financial recording. Would bring technical knowledge to the BoD, accounting policy, is very familiar with financial statements (is currently taking accounting info systems classes, etc.). In terms of representativity, - was against fee levy question, but has spoken with people who made the yes committee, their interest is to put everything online so that everything is transparent, she knows how to run a proper website. Q: How do you feel about anti-capitalist organizing? A: Have a lot of friends who are part of ASSE, understands their mindsets, has read Marx, wants to have diversity of options, Frigo can be considered opposition to the 'big guys' (IGA etc.) Q: What kind of experience do you have with collective decision making? A: Part of CSU council. I hate conflict. Wants consensus and compromise, this is important to her.

Ari – Is currently a history student at Concordia. 10 years of collective organizing experience, worked at different workers co-ops, worked at a co-op comparable to Frigo, involved in Belleville

co-op (exp in collective business environment), produce buyer at wholefoods, a lot of experience with managerial things, one of founders of Death Church collective, the whole collective process is something that is very dear to him, is vegan.

Morgan – grad student in sociology department, interested in food politics, food security background, animator at action communautaire in NDG, targeting students and downtown community, access to cheaper and healthier food. Has done book-keeping, has collective experience, is also vegan, interested in making cheap and healthy food available to everyone, on board with the mission of Frigo.

Genevieve – come from background of farmers markets, has been working at one for the past 10 years, works on farms during the summers, grew up around organic produce – finding this in a big city was important to Genevieve – loves what Frigo brings to Concordia community and beyond. Has been involved with other fee-levy groups, is intrigued by and would like to learn more about the co-op experience.

Jes – Has been working in HIV , has done some work around access to nutrition and food security grad student in creative writing and interested in re-wrtiing constitution/policy work. Skills and experience around facilitation, group descision making, anti-oppression work, comfort in the way the organization works but very little knowledge surrounding food other than what she puts in her bod.

Lucy – Has been on the board for the last 2 years, and recognizes Frigo as a really valuable part of Concordia. Excited to take apart and rewrite the constitution. Frigo is in a good place and surrounded by good people, with strong collective but excited to move forward and make the most of this year.

Tram – Has previously been on the board (2 years), finds board experience fun & learnt a lot. Enjoyed the activities she took part in,

Veronique – at UQAM, interested in Frigo though – and how it could benefit other neighbourhoods, experience in bookkeeping, and interested in coops. Q: How did you find out about Frigo? A: Roommate told her because she had expressed interest in wishing Montreal has good cheap accessible bulk food.

James will help Claire.

Ashley goes over voting regulations.

Election Results

Le Frigo Vert's Board for school year 2014-2015

Hilary

Tram

Lucy

Veronique

Danielle
Genevieve
Morgan
Jes
Ari

Community Announcements
Moved to adjourn George, Seconded by Vicky