

Le Frigo Vert Annual General Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2011

[These minutes are unapproved: to be approved at next year's AGM]

Call to Order

Facilitator: Ashley Fortier
Minute Taker: Noah Eidelman
Electoral Officer: Heather Nagy

Approval of Agenda

Jean-François motioned to approve, seconded by Julia.
Agenda approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

- Ashley asks for those who want to see the minutes from last year to make that known.
- Call for questions about minutes.

Gab motions to approve the minutes, seconded Nadim
Minutes approved unanimously.

Board Reports

Board Members present: Julia, Jess, Skylar, Ben, Hisako, Mike

Julia: Last year on the board was Julia, Jess, Skylar, Mike, Ben, Hisako. We had a bit of a problem near the end because some folks graduated and so there were not enough students on the board; so we appointed some people (Laura, Emily and Manuel). We started research in order to get cheap sexual health items for sale in the store. We did local product research earlier in the year (ex. vegan mayonnaise, apple cider vinegar). Also, last semester Jess and Tamara were working on a skill share idea, this slowed down over the summer.

Collective Reports

Faiz: All in all it's been very busy. There have been a lot of changes; we have had to deal with many issues as consequence of precarious funding

- Staffing: Shelly and Bronwen left. Kit was hired and left after summer session, she was really helpful and did a lot for the organization.
- Community: Developed many links and continued others; Jardins de la resistance, Concordia greenhouse, collaborations with local

distributors, Frigo continues to offer donations to grassroots organisations (including CKUT, the Burrito Project).

- Space: Increased shelving capacity, standing upright freezer, lowered mark-up on grocery items, more items placed under RM (15%), 3 year lease came to expiry (unlike soymilk, no discount was offered), collective decided to renew lease under conditions that owner make urgently needed renovations
- Events & Projects: GSA funding renewal project went well...but fee was ultimately not renewed. But we hope to run again and be successful. Undergraduate funding not increased. SID project larger than ever! Over 3000 cards in circulation. We participated in anarchist book fair and offered new versions of our cookbook. Anti-Colonial Thanksgiving (which is coming up again) at The Native Friendship Centre on November 30th.

Rachel: Presented attached Financial Report.

- Surplus last year of \$11,000; projecting same expenses for this year, but ending in a deficit of \$11,000 due to loss of GSA funding

Question Period

Q: Profits for this year?

A: First column is this financial year that ended may 30th, Rachel calls attention to notice to reader and points out assets.

Q: Do you have ideas for how this year's deficit can be handled?

A: Most of it will be covered by assets.

Q: Do you have any new plans to increase revenue to cover deficit?

A: We are asking people more strictly to show their membership cards and charging the 20% extra to anyone who is not a member. Last year we raised almost \$4000 this way. Will also attempt to get GSA levy going again to try to have that again; might also try to raise CSU levy (Tamara)

Q: What is cost of goods?

A: That is how much Frigo spends bringing in goods.

Board Nominations, Speeches and Voting

Heather Nagy is acting as chief electoral officer (CRO) and she needs two volunteer "scrutineers"

Ashley: Board needs minimum of 5, maximum of 9. Always needs to have 50% + 1 student membership. All interested will say why they are interested, people can ask them questions afterwards. Voting: you vote for 0 up to however many people are running (no more than 9). Each candidate needs simple majority of “yes” votes. Can block a candidate by voting against them and if 1/3 of votes are against a specific candidate, they will not be elected. Depending on if someone is a student or not may affect the order in which people are elected; after all candidates present themselves, ballots will be counted by Heather and 2 volunteers and then results will be announced.

Skylar Nagao (Community Member)
Self-nominated, seconded by Jess

I've been coming to Frigo for 4 years, have made food to sell in the store, been on board for 2 years, would like to keep working on certain projects like sexual health items.

Julia Wilk (Community Member)
Self-nominated, seconded by Skylar

Also been on board for two years, was a volunteer before joining the board, like hanging out at frigo and volunteering, would like to continue.

Jess Glavina (Student Member)
Self-nominated, seconded by Julia

Joined board last year, really enjoy being on board, really love Frigo as part of community, want to continue skill share project, (to answer question) work on making events that are alternatives to standard events (i.e. to valentine's day)

Stephanie (Student Member)
Nominated by Tamara, seconded by Mike

Tamara reps for Stephanie, newer volunteer, found Frigo through class, has been to board meeting, really interested in learning more about Frigo.

Zoe Hill (Community Member)
Self-nominated, seconded by Jean-Francois

I have a lot of ideas of how to incorporate what we are striving for with food into daily life and lifestyle changes; would like to work with like-minded folks

Lyla Spier (~~Community Member~~)

Self-nominated, seconded by Gab (Nomination later withdrawn)

I have been coming to Frigo for a while, would really like to help support it. [Later adds: I would love to help out, but don't want to take space away from someone else who wants to be here – nomination withdrawn]

Arthur Benard (Student Member)

Self-nominated, seconded by Tamara

6 months ago I found out about Frigo and feel like I found a missing piece of my puzzle. I feel like more people need to get involved; have some ideas of what I'd like to do to get people involved and passionate about Frigo.

Tamara: To give people an idea about time commitment, 1 hour once a week. This year we are going to organize Anti-Colonial Thanksgiving (with more board involvement). Board involvement in skill share and other projects. Meet once-a-week so ideas don't get lost, time outside of meetings is time people can commit (ex. board helped organize AGM). You don't have to attend all meetings, take stuff on based on your ability to do so

Hisako: Because Frigo is trying to do fee levy, having students (undergraduate & grad) on the board would really really help to organize the campaign

If full board is not elected, board can appoint more members later someone later on (in reference to someone expressing they have a friend who is interested)

Q: How many?

A: Minimum of 5, maximum of 9 and at least half have to be students.

Q: We can appoint someone to the board after?

A: There are 4 community members & 3 students. In cases when board membership is less than allowed minimum, full consensus of board can appoint no more than 2 new members in one year. Appointed board members have to give written candidacy 10 days prior to board meeting.

More than one-half of members must be students if any community members can be elected (i.e. only 3/4 community members running tonight can be elected because only 3 students are running)

Ballots are distributed by Heather

Q: Can you just write “yes” to all or “abstain” to all?

A: No, you need to write people’s names & yes (or no, to block) or don’t write their names if you abstain.

BREAK (Ballots are counted)

Election results

Heather gives results: All who ran were elected!

Community Announcements

- Ashley calls for announcements
- Jean-François: Project with People’s Potato; Quartier des Grands Jardins, city has said they will help improve quality of life in neighbourhood...not doing anything. PP is going to serve once a week to folks in the neighbourhood; idea is to go and be in the parc that is being developed; stay tuned for more info
- Skylar: Working with Burrito Project; sort of like FNB, deliver food to folks (by bike). Servings on Sunday nights, doing fundraiser sometime this weekend; for more info: burritoprojectmontreal@gmail.com (also there is a Facebook page)
- Anti-Colonial Thanksgiving at Native Friendship Centre, 5:30pm on November 30th, dinner, speakers, film-screening; for more info: Frigo

Adjournment

- Ashley: round of applause for all of the collective members and volunteers. They work so hard to keep Frigo going. And thank you to everyone for attending the AGM!

Mike motions to adjourn, seconded by Jean-François

Vote unanimously.