



## Cascade Co-ops (CC) Board Meeting Minutes, Virtual Meeting

Date: 5.19.2023, 5-6pm

### **Attending:**

Ashanti Monts-Treviska, Chair, Facilitator  
Kris Buettner, Notes  
Natali Kahm, Interpreter  
Deborah Craig, NWCDC

### **Check-Ins:**

### **Scheduling:**

- Deborah and Kris report that the doodle tool worked well for scheduling the meeting.

### **Notetaking:**

- There is an app we can use to transcribe notes.
- Ashanti would like to explore this option.

### **Email Interface change:** Ashanti wants to change the CC email to a new server and interface:

- CC Admin and Board members can continue to use Google drive.
- Ashanti has volunteered to make a transition.
- Changes to mail boxes will be communicated to the CC group.
- We could explore a Web page for information regarding for marketing
- CC could set up Board email addresses
- Include Laura in conversation

**To do:** Email with Laura and Michael about the changes- Ashanti  
Move forward with changes and document changes and access- Ashanti  
Report back on note taking tool- Ashanti

### **Cascade Co-ops benefits from NWCDC Grant!** The NWCDC offered CC a partnership for co-op trainings and in return CC is getting a \$7500 of their grant monies!!!

- CC has not received payment yet.

### **Repayment for Marketing Costs**

- CC has some outstanding debts for repayment of Marketing Costs to Deborah.
- Kris suggests that CC pay the marketing costs back to Deborah in full.
- CC owes Deborah \$1000 for Fall 2022 marketing ad in Cascadia Weekly
  - Only 3 of our co-ops contributed to the marketing efforts: Circle of Life, ICU, and A-!.
- Need to wait for vote from Michael M.- Add to next meeting agenda.

### **Newsletter/ Marketing Question:** "Mailer light" program could be used to save us some money.

- Ashanti has used this program and it is inexpensive and user friendly and accessible.
- Save money and has lots of resources

**October Event Planning:** The group briefly discussed options for the October event.

- It is important that planning starts as soon as possible, so we have time for marketing and engaging the co-ops.
- We could do a “Meet the Cascade Co-ops event” and everyone could set up their marketing tables.
- Contact Paul Schlisser to discuss the possibility of a joint sponsored co-op housing event in October.
- Add to next meeting agenda.

**International Co-op Day on July 3:** Ashanti inquired about participation in global co-op day. July 1- First Sat in July.

- CC could consider inviting co-ops to a meet and greet.
- Co-op’s could each have a table at the event.
- We could supply the co-ops yard signs “Happy International Day of Cooperatives”
  - Yard signs could be supplied to the CC coops and put up at Farm Markets
  - Parking spaces at ICU? We could do a CC table.
  - Pop up tent, folding tables, Camp chairs.
  - Ashanti can volunteer to update the Marketing materials.
- There isn’t much time for planning, but this could be a great idea for upcoming years.
- We could do a table at the farmers market to highlight the event this year.
  - ICU may let us use the parking lot at State and Chestnut.
  - It is too late to get a table spot at the market.
  - We could set up a table on the sidewalk outside of the market on July 1.

**CC Welcomes 2 New Coops: WELCOME to the NEW CO-OPS!**

- Cascade Mountain Ascents
- Community Media Co-op

**Consideration:**

- We need to make sure to engage new co-ops.
- Kris asked them each for blurb on their co-ops for the newsletter.
- Cascade Mtn Ascents provided blurb and this was forwarded to Laura.

**Steering Committee Relationships:**

- Ashanti would like to be in touch and get feedback from CC Steering Committee members
- Explore potential advisory relationships for the Board.
- Last meeting we discussed inviting the steering committee to specific meetups
- Membership fees should be discussed at some time and this would be a good topic of discussion.

**To Do:** Send Ashanti the Steering Committee email list- Deborah

**Member Engagement: The group briefly discussed how to engage co-ops in CC efforts.**

- Video clips from various co-ops could result in CC Video.
- This could be shared with all the co-ops and be a way to engage and promote group marketing

**Newsletter idea:** The Board chair could write up blurb for the newsletter.

- The first blurb could be an introduction and inspiration
- Info to be inclusive to deaf/ blind community.

- Ashanti can help with the newsletter.

**To Do:** Ashanti will provide a summary of short-term goals and who is going to do what.