

Steering Committee Meeting- March 19th 2007

1. Minutes from last meeting accepted with minor modification.
2. Product Committee congratulated for excellent job on tasting.
 - a. Newsletters to be sent to members not in attendance at the tasting. A letter will be sent with the newsletters describing what they missed.
3. Treasurers report- Joe \$17,081.85 total
4. Old Business
 - a. Membership Committee- Mr. Loper
 - i. Discussed orientation at the library 4/10 at 2pm.
 - ii. Next orientation meeting at Community Hospital on 3/22.
 - b. Church Liaison- LarRaine
 - i. Pastor luncheon on 4/28 at 11:30 am location tba. Gwen Smith to distribute invitations. Tina, Rob and Gwen Smith to present at the luncheon. The emphasis should be directed towards issues that are important to them.
 - ii. Park Slope trip for pastors on 4/19 at 8 am.
 - c. Finance Committee and Administration- Joe
 - i. Packages mailed last week to 56 people, follow up phone calls and emails done
 - ii. Lenders meetings at Merion Cricket Club 3/28 and 3/29 and the Union league 4/4 and 4/5.
 - iii. TRF- no progress yet.
 - iv. Meeting with Frank Aleardi? from Sav-A-Lot who would like the co-op to help train employees.
 - v. Tina led a discussion on how we should approach the large companies in Chester for support. Ken suggested that Jack or Christine would be good people to work on this.
 - d. Marketing Committee- Ken
 - i. Lender meetings- Rich is roughing out the presentation.
 - ii. Wellness fare PR- Rich will be the point person on this.
 - iii. Barbara Blake will be handling press releases for the co-op's various projects. Contact info: 610-543-4101, email: bblake37@comcast.net.
 - iv. Ken showed design for security and member's vests.
 - e. Product Committee- Joan
 - i. Food Expo 3/21 at the Meadowlands. No one from the product committee can go. Tina will call to inform them no one will be there.
 - ii. Lucielle will tabulate the results of the survey from the product tasting. The products seemed acceptable to the membership.
 - f. Legal Services- Tina
 - i. Non-profit status application- committee to be formed
 - g. Newsletter- Ken and Jan
 - i. Jan wants to get the newsletter out by 4/4 – 4/5. She will let us know when the deadline for article submission is.

- ii. Ken suggested think farm fresh market.
- h. Wellness Committee- Rob (describe event).
 - i. Tina suggested we co-sponsor with the Y and advertise in the paper.
 - ii. We will approach Croser and Widener about helping with the fair and other wellness projects.
- i. Development Committee- Tina
 - i. CSREES- approved to move forward with application for funding. Due 4/12. Grant amount \$125,000 per year for three years.
 - ii. Springfield parish nurses luncheon- very positive response.
 - iii. Del. Co. Economic Dev.-Bob Lietssel-business loan; need to create 3 jobs for every \$25,000 loan. \$1,000 application fee. Tina felt this is probably not a good fit for us.
 - iv. Steering Committee decided not to move forward with First Industry Grant.
 - v. Ministerial Presentation- went well. Ministers responded well to the co-op and are willing to travel to Park Slope Co-op
 - vi. Pastor Lily-White Rock Church agreed to learn more about co-ops before making any decision on supporting it
 - vii. Howard Bowers Fund- Application revised for \$5,000.
 - viii. 320 Produce Meeting with Dave Cunicelli-Met with Tina and Ken and were willing to introduce Tina to produce contacts at Philadelphia Distribution Center.
 - ix. Ed Chantigian- Discussed products for farmers market. Suggested buying a variety of products and seeing what sells.
 - x. Website Management- Tina will do this for the meantime.
 - xi. Business Plan- Finance Committee will be working on pro-forma numbers. Joe is to get Tina and Jack up to speed on the numbers so that they are comfortable justifying them.
 - xii. Building at 5th and Edgmont- no response so far on our offer. The committee is looking at other possibilities.
 - xiii. Nominating Committee- the committee is to be three member and two steering committee members who are not interested in being on the board.

5. New Business

- a. Tina met with City Council to get permission to use the property on Edgmont under the trestle.
- b. Weaver Way Co-op interview- will appear in their news paper 4/1.
- c. Jack Cavanaugh is the newest member of the Steering Committee. He was the GM at Swarthmore Co-op.
- d. Swarthmore College Research Project will use the co-op for 2 student projects.
- e. Tina will be interviewed by CN-8 airing 4/4 for 1 wk at 25 and 55 of the hour.

6. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm