



**Minutes of Lakewinds Natural Foods
Board of Directors' Meeting
Monday, April 23, 2012**

Doug Engen, President	Cheryl Ahlcrona
John DePaolis, Vice President (*)	Caroline Hermes
Joe Wagner, Treasurer	Fred Ladner
Masha Yevzelman, Secretary	Taiha Wagner
Dale Woodbeck, General Manager	

(*) *absent*

The President called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM Monday, April 23, 2012 in the Minnetonka meeting room.

Presentation –John Mesko (Sustainable Farming Association):

John Mesko, the executive director of Sustainable Farming Association (“SFA”), presented about SFA and the project that the Lakewinds Organic Field Fund (“LOFF”) is funding. SFA has been in existence for approximately 20 years and its purpose is to foster farmer-to-farmer networking in the organic community. It is a farmer-led and a farmer-run organization. The organization is especially helpful to beginning/new farmers in integrating into the farming community. The project that LOFF is funding is the second phase of a new crops assessment project. In the first phase, which Lakewinds funded through its grant program two years ago, SFA surveyed consumers about various crops (e.g. quinoa, spelt, farrow, millet) and whether their needs for those crops are satisfied by local farmers. John Mesko shared the survey results with the Board. The second phase, which is being funded by LOFF, is to take the information from the survey and help farmers learn how to grow crops that the consumers indicated they were most interested in having grown locally.

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included a list of new memberships, a list of repurchased memberships, and the minutes of the March 26, 2012 Board Meeting. Approval of the consent agenda was moved and seconded and all voted in favor.

GM and Financial Report – Dale:

Dale presented the General Manager’s report and the Financial Report. Dale discussed possible expansion opportunities. Discussion was also held about Minnetonka versus Chanhassen performance.

Executive Responsibility Policies – Caroline:

The Board reviewed Executive Responsibility Policies ER-1 to ER-6.

Employee Handbook – Dale:

Dale shared with the Board the updated employee handbook.

Board Structure – Doug:

The Board discussed the resignation of Board member Karen Coune, which had occurred earlier in April due to a conflict of interest that developed, and the impact of the resignation on the composition of the Board. The Board will have five open positions this coming election. The Board discussed ways to make each election have three open seats, including the possibility of increasing the number of board members when only one or two positions are up for election. The Board also discussed the possibility of filling Karen's vacant seat now, rather than waiting for the election. The Board discussed potential candidates for that role.

Other Business – Dale:

Dale provided a recap of the Gluten Free Roundup, which was very successful. The Board discussed other similar potential events that Lakewinds could host. Dale also reported on the discussions held at the NCGA conference. Dale provided an update on the variance that was submitted to the City of Minnetonka to add to the back of the Minnetonka building.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.