**Application for Board Candidacy**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City/Sate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail this completed form and any attachments to** board@goodfoods.coop.

**Investment Exercise:**

Assume for the moment that you are on the Good Foods Board of Directors and that you have been given 25 “Good Foods Bucks” to invest. How would you invest those Good Foods Bucks on the Board items below?

 **Amount** **Category**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Enhancing owner participation in the co-op |
|  | Educating owners |
|  | Bringing healthy food to all segments of the community |
|  | Bringing cooperative values to the community |
|  | Ensuring the co-op is well-governed |
|  | Ensuring the co-op operates well on a daily basis |
|  | Sustainable food system |
|  | Ensuring the co-op is profitable |
|  | Ensuring the co-op staff is treated well |
|  | Having an educated Board |
|  | Promoting local food |
|  | Having a collaborative working relationship with fellow Board members |
|  | Other:  |

 **25 Total**

**Questions:**

Please provide brief answers below. Responses should not exceed two pages.

**Interest:**

1. Why do you shop at the co-op?
2. Approximately how long have you been a shopper and/or owner at the co-op?
3. Of all that the co-op has to offer, what do you feel is the most important?
4. If you were to be elected or appointed to the Good Foods Board of Directors, what is the one most important thing you would like to accomplish?

**Experience:**

1. What knowledge, skills, and abilities can you offer the Good Foods Board of Directors?
2. Describe your experience with any other co-ops or small business (with dates).
3. Have you served on a board of directors? In what capacity. Please list (with dates).
4. Describe any aspects of your background that would enable you to represent the diversity of the Co-op membership.
5. At the time of the election or during your contemplated term of board service, will you be working for any food-related business or other business that could be a conflict of interest? If so, explain.

**Bio/Background/Resume:**

Provide a link below or attachment of your bio, background summary or resume (*please limit attachments to two pages*).

**E-mail this completed form (max of 3 pages) and any attachments to** board@goodfoods.coop

**Supplemental Information for Board Application:**

**Good Foods Co-op Board Member**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

*As* a co-op director, I pledge to do my best for Good Foods Co-op and will:

* Devote the time needed to fulfill the responsibilities of the position;
* Attend all regular and special board meetings and meetings of committees of which I am a member;
* Be prompt, attentive and prepared for all board and committee meetings;
* Contribute to and encourage open, respectful, and thorough discussions by the board
* Attend and actively participate in the board’s training sessions and retreats to enhance board understanding and cohesiveness;
* Consider the business of the Co-op and its members to be confidential in nature;
* Disclose any personal or organizational conflict of interest that I may have and refrain from discussing or voting on any issues related to that conflict;
* Be honest, helpful, diligent and respectful in my dealings with the Co-op, with other directors, and with the Co-op's management;
* Work for continued and increased effectiveness in the Co-op’s ability to serve its member/owners;
* Be a team player and agree to abide by decisions of the board, even if it is not my own personal opinion;
* Present the agreed-upon view of the board of directors, rather than my own, when I speak for the Co-op to employees, members, shoppers, and the general public;
* Refrain from asking for special privileges as a board member and from interfering with management’s authority;
* Work to ensure that the Co-op is controlled in a democratic fashion by its members and that all elections are open, fair, and encourage the participation of all members;
* Strive at all times to keep the members informed of the Co-op's status and plans, and of the board's work, as appropriate;
* Continually seek to learn more about the Co-op and its operations and about my responsibilities as a board member by pursuing educational opportunities.

As a Co-op director, I agree to abide by this Code of Conduct. I agree that if I have violated the letter or spirit of this agreement, the other board members may take action to remove me from the board pursuant to the Co-op's bylaws.

**Cooperative Values & Principles**

Cooperatives worldwide generally operate using the same Principles as adopted in 1995 by the International Cooperative Alliance. The principles are part of a cooperative statement of identity which also includes the definition of cooperative and a list of cooperative values.

***Definition***

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

***Values***

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

***Principles***

*1. Voluntary and Open Membership* -- Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

*2. Democratic Member Control -* Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.

*3. Member Economic Participation -* Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. They usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

*4. Autonomy and Independence* - Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

*5. Education, Training and Information* - Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public - particularly the young people and opinion leaders -- about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

*6. Cooperation among Cooperatives* - Cooperatives serve their members-most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

7. *Concern for* Community - While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.