Vice President Rebecca Guralnick called the July 22, 2024, meeting of the Outpost Natural Foods Board of Directors to order at 6:02 pm.

**Board Members**

Rick Banks – absent, excused

Rick Daggett – present

Melissa Drews – present

Tay Fatke – present via video conference

Ashley Fisher – absent, excused

Rebecca Guralnick – present

Eno Meier – present

Barbara Merritt – absent, excused

Duncan Shrout – present

**Management in Attendance**

Ray Simpkins, CEO

Lisa Draeger, Office Manager and Executive Assistant

**Owners in Attendance**

Cassandra Papesh, owner #54471 – present

Emily Bertholf, owner #47394 – present via video conference

**OUTPOST MISSION, READ BY RAY SIMPKINS**

*Outpost Natural Foods exists so that our owners have a healthy, diverse, and sustainable community. We will accomplish this while maintaining the long-term strength of the cooperative. We achieve this goal by making sure that-*

* *The community has access to products and services that promote personal and environmental health.*
* *The community has access to organically and locally produced goods.*
* *The community is educated about choices that impact personal and environmental health.*
* *A community with commerce that is locally owned or locally oriented exists.*
* *The owners have a sense of connectedness, belonging, and fellowship.*
* *The cooperative infrastructure is supported.*

**OUTPOST LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT READ BY DUNCAN SHROUT**

*Outpost Natural Foods acknowledges that our four store locations and central offices occupy the ancestral home of Indigenous peoples who were forced from their land with the arrival of white settlers. These tribal nations include Anishinaabeg (Ojibwe), Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), Peoria, Bodéwandimiakiwen (Potawatomi), Menominee, Myaamia (Miami), Waazija (Ho-Chunk/Winnebago), and Očhéthi Šakówin (Tatanka Oyate). Descendants and members of these tribal nations continue to live in Milwaukee and its neighboring towns and communities. Many are owners of our co-op and shop at our stores. Their patronage contributes to Outpost’s success and the resiliency of our community.*

**APPROVE AGENDA AND ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS**

**Consent Items**

* May Minutes – Open and Closed Sessions
* Board Accountability Checklist

Duncan Shrout made a motion to approve the agenda and meeting minutes. Eno Meier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEE WORK**

**Nominations Committee**

No significant changes were made to the charter.

Melissa Drews made a motion to approve the Nominations Charter, seconded by Eno Meier. The motion passed unanimously.

**Development Committee**

Melissa Drews has been assigned as chair of the committee. No major changes were made to the charter. Results of the Board Self-Assessment Survey were presented. The Development Committee is available to assist with learning in areas of policy governance and Bylaws. Repeating financial training is an option.

Duncan Shrout made a motion to accept the Development Committee charter, seconded by Rick Daggett. The motion passed unanimously.

**Engagement Committee**

Tay Fatke reviewed key points in the charter. The committee plans to present the annual engagement plan in August. The committee is currently working on establishing a firm date for an owner event in October at Hundred Acre Farm.

Eno Meier made a motion to accept the Development Committee charter, seconded by Duncan Shrout. The motion passed unanimously.

**CEO MONITORING**

**B5 – Treatment of Customers**

This policy addresses issues regarding responsiveness to customers. It includes having a system in place for soliciting and responding to owner and customer comments; ensuring conditions that allow for a safe shopping trip; being responsive to their feedback to improve operations and provide programs and offers related to their ownership.

Duncan Shrout made a motion to accept the report as compliant. Eno Meier seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**AUGUST 2024 MEETING PREP**

* Review of upcoming agenda items for the August meeting.

**BOARD CLOSED SESSION: Begin at 6:57 pm**

* Board FYI
* Treasurer Presentation
  + 2023 and 2024 YTD Board Budget Review
  + Draft Board Budget for FY 2024-25
* Meeting Evaluation

**BOARD CLOSED SESSION: End at 6:59 pm**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm

**NEXT MEETING**

The Board will vote to approve these minutes at the August 26, 2024, Board meeting. The following Outpost Natural Foods Board meeting is on September 23 at 6:00 pm.

Board meetings are held at the Outpost Central Office at 3200 S. 3rd Street, Milwaukee WI 53207, and begin at 6:00 p.m. Owners in good standing are welcome to attend in person without prior approval, although advance notice is appreciated. If an owner wishes to attend virtually, we request notice at least two business days in advance so we can provide you with login information. Your ownership will be checked to make sure it is current, and all owners are considered observers. If you wish to address the Board and be added to the agenda, requests must be made at least 10 days in advance. To request time on the agenda, request to attend virtually, or share your plans to attend in person, please contact the Board secretary at 414-431-3377, ext. 221 or email [board@outpost.coop](mailto:board@outpost.coop). Please be advised that owners will be asked to leave the meeting during any closed sessions that may be held due to discussion of issues of a confidential or sensitive nature.