

**Minutes of the
Marquette Food Co-op Board of Directors
June 17, 2025 Meeting**

Start time: Meeting was called to order by president M. Augustyn at 6:05 p.m.

Roll call: A. Adan, M. Augustyn, A. Berger, M. Danz, M. Dewar, G. Hoffmann, O. Kingery, R. Kochis, A. McGrath, T. Rulseh (zoom), S. Weaver.

Absent: None.

Staff: GM Matt Gougeon, Sarah Monte, Kat Eaton, Kelly Cantway, Bri Larson, Kim Sheridan, Evan Zimmermann.

Public: Mary Pat Linck.

II. Board Terms Begin and End: Board members introduced themselves. Board members completed online Officer and Committee Interest Survey prior to the meeting.

(a) Officer Elections:

i. President: T. Rulseh

Motion: To elect T. Rulseh as President (motion by M. Dewar, second G. Hoffmann).

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

ii. Vice President: A. McGrath

Motion: To elect A. McGrath as Vice President (motion by O. Kingery, second M. Dewar).

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

iii. Treasurer: M. Dewar

Motion: To elect M. Dewar as Treasurer (motion by T. Rulseh, second A. McGrath)

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

iv. Secretary: O. Kingery

Motion: To elect O. Kingery as Secretary (motion by A. McGrath, second S. Weaver).

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

(b) Form Committees:

i. **GM Evaluation:** A. Adan, M. Danz, M. Dewar, T. Rulseh

ii. **Finance:** A. Berger, M. Danz, M. Dewar, G. Hoffmann

- iii. **Community Engagement:** O. Kingery, A. McGrath, S. Weaver
- iv. **Elections and Orientation:** A. Berger, O. Kingery, A. McGrath
- v. **Governance:** A. Adan, A. McGrath, T. Rulseh,
- vi. **Diversity Equity and Inclusion:** O. Kingery, S. Weaver, G. Hoffmann

III. Agenda Overview and Approval

- (a) Approval of Agenda & Additions: Agenda was reviewed. GM requested Closed Session at the end of the meeting.

IV. Consent Agenda:

- (a) Electronic Communications
- (b) Approval of May Meeting Minutes
- (c) Outreach Report (S. Monte)
- (d) UP Food Exchange Report (S. Monte)

Motion: To approve agenda and consent agenda with changes (motion by O. Kingery, second G. Hoffmann.)

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

- V. **Public Comment Period:** Discussion was held about committee assignments and whether participation on GM Evaluation committee requires board members to have served on the board for at least one year. Further information is needed to confirm whether this is a formal requirement for service on any board committees. Discussion was held about the board's use of Teams.

VI. GM Monitoring:

- (a) Store Report (M. Gougeon): Written report was provided prior to the meeting. GM reported that revenue is up. GM updated the board about UNFI cyber attack that has resulted in delays in receiving orders. GM clarified that this outage has impacted stores nationwide. Kim Sheridan reported that UNFI plans to be back online tomorrow. GM reported that the MFC has hired the Customer Experience Researcher in partnership with NMU, as discussed last month. GM updated the board about the final equipment purchase for the prepared foods remodel. Discussion was held about whether the UNFI outage has resulted in reduction in sales. It was reported that sales have not been significantly impacted.
- (b) L1 – Customer Treatment (M. Gougeon): Board received the report prior to the meeting and came prepared to act. GM explained that the policy addresses how the MFC serves its customers. Discussion was held about having the policy reviewed by the DEI committee.

Operational definition/interpretation reasonable: Yes.

Adequate data to determine compliance/accomplishment: Yes.

Does the data demonstrate compliance/accomplishment: Yes.

Report was accepted as in compliance.

VII. Board Monitoring & Discussion:

(a) Committee Reports and Discussion:

- i. GM Evaluation (M. Augustyn, M. Danz, M. Dewar, R. Kochis, T. Rulseh): Did not meet.
- ii. Finance (R. Kochis, M. Danz, M. Dewar, T. Rulseh): Met to review financial data. Key Financial Indicators were reviewed. M. Dewar will lead a future Board Education session on the topic of finance basics.
- iii. Community Engagement (N. Frischkorn, M. Augustyn, O. Kingery): Did not meet.
- iv. Elections & Orientation (R. Kochis, O. Kingery, A. McGrath): Committee welcomed new board members.
- v. Governance (M. Augustyn, N. Frischkorn, A. McGrath, T. Rulseh): Did not meet.
 1. Prepare policies for quarterly review.
- vi. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (O. Kingery, A. McGrath): Did not meet.

- (b) CCMA: Consumer Cooperative Management Association conference was held in Duluth this year. The board shared about sessions and presentations that they attended. Hunter Laing gave a presentation about the history of cooperatives in the Upper Peninsula. The board discussed inviting Hunter to present to the board on the topic in the future. Discussion was held about a presentation about the language used to describe food scarcity. The phrases *food desert*, *food apartheid*, and *healthy food high priority areas* were discussed. It was noted that the phrase *food desert* was identified by the conference speaker as no longer being the preferred or accepted vocabulary to describe areas with reduced access to healthy food. The board discussed the need to stay educated and continue conversations on this topic.

IX. Public Comment Period: None.

X. Closings:

(a) July Assignments:

- i. Board Social
- ii. NCG Revised Agreements
- iii. Board Education: MFC Tour (M. Gougeon and S. Monte)
- iv. Store Report (M. Gougeon)
- v. L6 – Budgeting and Financial Planning (M. Gougeon)
- vi. Committee Reports and Discussion

1. Review Committee Charters and Procedures (All Committees)
- vii. Consent Agenda
 1. Electronic Communications
 2. Approval of June Minutes
 3. Outreach Report (S. Monte)
 4. UP Food Exchange Report (S. Monte)

XI. Closed Session

Motion to enter Closed Session at 7:30 p.m. (motion by O. Kingery, second A. McGrath).

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to return to Open Session at 7:54 p.m. (motion by A. Berger, second M. Dewar).

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

XII. *Motion to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. (motion by A. McGrath, second S. Weaver).*

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

Next Board Meeting: July 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Emily Weddle
Board Recorder