

MVFC Minutes from Meeting Sunday, January 28, 2018 3pm

Held at Suzanne's house – Attending Suzanne, Laura, Kate, Swanna, Kathleen

I. Introductions

II. Discuss Speaker Series

a. Andrea from NH Community Seafood will present a PPT and bring samples of under utilized fish to reheat and try. Event planned for Sunday, March 18 from 4-6pm at Moderno unless another location with a kitchen can be located. Laura will ask about specific PPT title/ topic. Looking at charging \$5 depending on cost of the samples.

Laura will ask Tewksbury Honey and Celeste Olivia about their interest in presenting Feb 18.

Suzanne will ask Battle Ground Café again for future dates.

Suzanne will design an event flyer once details are confirmed about the presentation.

b. Carol Dopp, Holderness School Volunteer group from March 6 – March 13 possible volunteers of 10 students and 2 adults. Can we think of ways they can help with our March 18th Speaker/ demo? How much can we spend on flyers, printing etc?

III. Co-op Regional events w NFCA

a. NFCA 7th Annual meeting will be on Saturday, March 17 from 9:30am – 4pm in Greenfield, MA. We can send 3-4 people, Suzanne, Swanna, Kathleen, Laura will ask about work and Kate is a possible to attend.

b. Saturday, May 5 Start Up workshop to be held in Keene, NH at the Monadnock Co-op. Board should all attend, Kate may also be able to come. We will invite other members to participate.

c. NFCA \$100 annual dues to be paid by Feb 15th. Suzanne updated our contact list and Swanna will send payment.

d. Report from Start Up Call

Kathleen participated in the Monday, January 20 Start Up call from 5-6pm. She reported that the Start Up call group asked each co-op to review their mission statement and make sure that everyone involved understands and can repeat the shared mission and vision. Start Up calls will take place monthly and will follow the handbook "FCI Guide to Starting a Co-op". Here is a link to the PDF file: <http://www.foodcoopinitiative.coop/sites/default/files/Startup%20guide-02.2017.pdf> We will discuss our mission and prepare during the next monthly meeting. The next Start Up call is Monday, February 26 at 5pm.

IV. Local Activities

a. Team Haverhill Possible Dreams annual event is on Monday, March 19 at 7pm on the Haverhill Campus of NECC. Can we possibly do something with Washington St Association or The Acre? We can speak with their members during the event.

b. Phil Brown is interested in writing a book about Merrimack Valley Farms as an MVFC fundraiser. If interested, we would have to raise money to cover production costs and MVFC would receive the book to sell for co-op use. Swanna would like to read his "Greeks of MV" Try to find a copy and discuss offer of book fundraiser.

c. MVFC responded to questions from WGBH food blog, "Craving Boston" it is in production and we are waiting to hear when it might come out.

d. Other Ideas to Grow the Co-op this year

Swanna will ask about requirements for presenting in local libraries.

Kathleen will confirm dates/ times for area farmers markets and Amesbury Open Studios interest in hosting a MVFC event.

Kathleen will ask about the Feb 11 Open Studio event at 4pm in Amesbury. Is it something MVFC could participate in?

We can attend another North Parish coffee hour, look for other events or locations to reach out.

Suzanne will start creating a social media calendar to plan our outreach with more organization. Try to email something monthly at least, early reminders followed up with a day before reminder.

V. Financial

a. Kate will look more into the pre-feasibility study that Stuart talked about during the last NFCA annual. How specific a geographic range is needed?

b. Suzanne gathered Savor Haverhill receipts not already submitted for Swanna to followup with the Cultural Council for final submission for the grant by January 31.

Next meeting will be Sunday Feb 25 at 3pm at Suzanne's. Already a FB event post