**THE ROWLAND CO-OP**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**April 25, 2021**

**Participants:** Lorraine Bentley, Caryn Christianson, Kenny Christianson, Christine Foland, Marian Keegan, Carole Linkiewicz, Karen Monel, Jane Olsen, Bergit Pinkston, Diana Potts

1. **Call to Order: 2:39 pm**
2. **Approval of Minutes for meeting of March 28, 2021**: Minutes approved as presented.
3. **Treasurer’s report:**

Our bank account currently has a balance of $698.31.

Outstanding liabilities are:

Check # 1114 DeFilippi’s $259.18

Check #1116 Calkins Creamery $75.46   
 Check #1120 Calkins Creamery $81.31

Check #1121 Rowland Soapworks $49.50

DeFilippis $125.29

Pocono Pro Foods $419.80

LHTC $163.24

Eastern Propane $97.41

Alpine $94.36

Reading Soda Works $1500?

Here are the monthly sales figures:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| month | sales revenue | cost of goods sold | net sales revenue |
| 20-Apr | 2991.7 | 1901.81 | 1089.89 |
| 20-May | 6931.12 | 4849.84 | 2081.28 |
| 20-Jun | 7113.49 | 4754.98 | 2358.51 |
| 20-Jul | 8188.53 | 4836.96 | 3351.57 |
| 20-Aug | 7089.07 | 4237.31 | 2851.76 |
| 20-Sept | 6724.66 | 3995.65 | 2729.01 |

20-Oct 6023.58 3642.35 2381.23

20-Nov 4158.99 2527.05 1631.94

20-Dec 3920.40 2688.01 1232.39

21-Jan 3112.00 1918.21 1193.79

21-Feb 2580.48 1653.45 927.03

21-Mar 3589.53 2208.16 1381.38

21-Apr 3804.69 2374.45 1430.24

* The Co-op will continue to be open seven days per week from 8:00 am – 7:00 pm throughout the spring and summer.
* There is a need for a fundraiser. Kenny would like to discuss this issue at the next meeting. Bergit suggested that small fund raising events work well. Examples are silent auctions, flower sales and weekly activities. Marian suggested crowd funding because of local attachment to the Co-op. The expenses of installing the needed well could be addressed with this option. Other suggestions included an auction of notable local art and a food truck. Licensing issues would likely make a food truck impractical.

1. **Water Update:** Kenny continues to be in contact with Brian Oram of BF Environmental Engineering.
2. **Membership report:** On April 25, the coop has 55 paid households, representing 137 individuals. We have received $1525 in dues. For our first members, annual dues are due in April. We have received 6 renewals so far.
3. **Updates:**

* The insurance policy is paid for the year.
* Kenny is still waiting to hear back from the food stamp program. It has been close to a year since the Co-op first applied.
* Kenny has been working on Sundays and Caryn has been working on Mondays to reduce paid labor time.
* There was an article about the first anniversary of the Co-op in the Lackawaxen Connection.
* The Care Cabin has provided the Co-op with plantains for sale.
* Website has been updated.
* The towpath cleanup on April 24 was a great success. The Co-op hosted 22 people for a barbecue.
* Kenny explored the possibility of obtaining grants from the county. One program was not available to non-profits, for another the Co-op had to be in operation on March 31, 2020. The Co-op needs to think about a membership drive and fundraising to provide more working capital, especially to install the well.
* Eva Schwartz has set up a seed library for the coop. Members can borrow seeds and then replace them once the plants grow. She also wants to have a plant sale.
* The Co-op is working on setting up farmer vendors. Caryn has been in contact with Forgotten Fields in Greeley. Kenny will contact Michael Hill of Hill Farms in Lord’s Valley.

1. **Volunteers**

There is still a need for painting and electrical work, as well as for delivery drivers once swimming starts.

1. **Upcoming events?**

* Plant sale/ craft fair will take place on June 5th. Bergit, Carole, Caryn, Diana, and Jane are coordinating this event.
* Fourth of July River Parade.
* Day by the River in August.
* Labor Day flea market

1. **Member issues and concerns:**  Suggestions offered but not discussed—

* Give a red carnation to mothers who come into the store the day before Mother’s Day
* Sell donuts and give a free cup of coffee

**10. Next meeting?**

Sunday, May 23, 2021, 2:30 – 4:00 pm