**THE ROWLAND CO-OP**

**ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**

**May 31, 2020**

**Participants:** Lorraine Bentley, Caryn Christianson, Kenny Christianson, Lori Emanuele, Robin Hoose, Dorothy Kreitz, Robin MacArthur, Randy Nilsen, Winnie Olsen, Joanne Scoca

1. **Call to Order:** 2:05 pm

The April meeting was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The May meeting was held on the Zoom platform.

1. **Minutes of meeting of March 8, 2020:** not presented
2. **Treasurer’s report:** The coop opened a grocery store on April 3 so that local residents would not have to travel to obtain supplies. In our first month the coop had total sales of $2,991.70, with discounts of 161.11 provided by members. Total expenses have not yet been calculated. The coop has obtained business and director’s insurance, our Federal Employee ID number, and Pennsylvania tax numbers.
3. **Water Update:** The coop has contracted with Brian Oram of BF Environmental Engineering to explore our water options, and to see which option may be the most feasible. They will work with Fritz Brothers of Honesdale.
4. **Membership report:** On May 31, the coop has 33 paid households, representing 77 individuals. We have received $825 in dues.
5. **Updates:**

We have obtained the following vendors for the grocery store. We are trying to obtain local products wherever possible.

 Pocono Mountain Dairy Defilippi Bakery

 Pocono Pro Foods Augusta Acres

 Baldors Shemanski

 Alpine IGA

 Calkins Cheese Narrowsburg Lumber

 Reading Soda Lake Wally Deli

 Rowland Soapworks Grand Design

Thanks to all of the volunteers who attended the clean-up meeting on March 21, or who have otherwise helped to get the coop grocery store started:

Robin Hoose Karen Havens Lori Emmanuele Jeff Thompson

Olsen Mechanical Lorraine Bentley Tom Shelp Mike Sorce

Jane Olsen Karen Monel Aliyah Oba Caryn Christianson

Scott Olsen Mariah Moyles Bruce Bentley Randy Nilsen

Joanne Scoca

I apologize for the inevitable names I am forgetting.

7. **Discussion:** The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing various issues involved in opening the grocery store.

 **-** We have been working on accepting SNAP EBT cards. The application requires copies of photo ID and Social Security cards from each Director.

 - Many fisherman have asked for ice. We are working on obtaining a vendor, such as Bayo.

 - We need to work on recruiting new members.

 - We need to obtain a microwave so that customers can heat their own food, such as Jimmy Dean sandwiches or French Bread Pizza.

 - Much time was spent discussing the need for a volunteer structure. Members are willing to volunteer their time for the coop, but there is no mechanism to know when or what to do. Kenny will prepare a list of tasks necessary to run the grocery store and maintain the building, and we will set up a volunteer structure at the next meeting. Lorraine volunteered to act as

 -Volume 1 books for Little Norway are running low. Lorraine and Kenny will work on printing a new edition, perhaps a hard copy this time.

**8. Next meeting** – We decided to have our next meeting in person. We will have our next meeting on Sunday, June 28. We will have our business meeting from 2:00 – 3:00 pm, and then a barbecue from 3:00 – 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenny Christianson
President