Bylaws informational meeting

4-18-13

Present: Members Judi Becker & Susan Dunning; Board members Ron Hoffman, Aram Polster, & Christine Speidel

The group went through the redlined bylaws, soliciting member comments on each proposed change. Judi Becker asked for a general explanation of the intent behind the bylaw review.

Section 1.3

Register discounts – Susan Dunning pointed out that we still need a definition of "household" or "family" in operational policy, in order to administer the register discounts. Susan feels that we need to be careful about this. Would a house full of 10 adult roommates all get the register discount? Perhaps we should use "family" rather than "household."

Volunteers – Susan commented that she is aware of the legal issues around working members, and she would recommend moving away from using volunteers in the store.

Section 1.4

Susan objects to the change because she feels it gives the board too much discretion to deny a member's request. She would leave it as it was before, or alternately propose something like this: "Members shall be provided access to financial information [or financial reports] of the co-op for a proper purpose and at a reasonable time.

Section 2.3

Susan feels strongly that email notice should not be the default method of notice, at least for current members. In her experience, emails often do not reach their intended recipient. She is fine with opt-in email notice.

Section 2.6

Susan would prefer no change to this section. She pointed out that sometimes we only get 20 members to show up to a meeting. It seems odd to her to require more signatures than people who would normally attend.

Section 10.2

Susan feels strongly that bylaw amendments should not be sent out electronically, unless a member has requested it.

If the proposed language is retained, a sentence needs to be added to clarify which method is the default and allowing opt-out or opt-in.