

Food Coop Meeting June 10, 2006

Present: Cheryl Haworth, Steve Brenner, Anne Stein

Buyer's Club:

We will start slowly, maybe once per month for the summer. **Needs:** 1) We need some one or two or three to collect orders and checks. 2) Some one(s) to deposit checks and be bank liaison; this could be same people as order/check collectors We will need a receipt book. How much will we charge each order to cover gas for vehicles? If we buy from the Eugene Grower's Coop (assumed), 3) we will need trucks or vans and drivers to go there Thurs late afternoon (Cheryl and Anne each has one.), 4) boxes and coolers for individual orders. ? Should we require people to provide their own with names? (aquarium supply stores have their live fish delivered in large boxed Styrofoam containers they often will give away), 5) people to contribute labor at Grower's Coop and then 6) people to help unpack and distribute at Randy's parking lot that night. Alternative option for Grower's Coop: Eugene Organically Grown Coop – Donna DiPietro (466-3345) goes weekly on Saturdays. **Actions:** Max was to talk to Randy about an ordering Corner with Sign, place for catalogues and order forms. **Cheryl** will contact Donna about OGC specifics. We will recruit need people at the Salon and work on an article with Whitney before we begin.

Farmer's Market: Max and Gian will be back next week.

Time and Dates: Will be held Saturdays 9 am to 1 pm, beginning July 1? and going through ? (September? or October?) It will be sited in Randy's parking lot except on those Saturdays when he is hosting a musical event. On those week ends, July 15 - the City-wide Garage Sale, August 5 – the Antique Fair and August 26, the Market **may** be sited across the street in the "Hotel" lot. We need to sign a liability waiver for Penny Bridgeman and pay \$1 to make it legal.

Rules and Cost: ? What are our vendor criteria? Will this be open only for produce vendors?, plants?, crafts?, artists?

Free to sellers who provide their own shade, cash care and sales personnel.

!5% of sales to those very small vendors who need a communal booth/canopy, cashier etc

Potential Farmer/Gardeners:

Gian to check with Weppeler Farms (Steve Posavatz) and Sheri Falk.

Cheryl will talk to Melissa Kendal, ~~Rhoda~~ has all her produce presold, ~~Sonja and Dinea~~ are not ready.

Steve will check with Van Sandts and Kim Carlson (Courtney Creek Farms). ~~Anne Stein~~ will not be ready this year.

Anne will talk to the Nelsons.

Needs: We will need an article telling of Market and soliciting vendors before we begin. We need a canopy for Market Staff; more for Communal sales/ cashier. (Anne has one, ?Randy?)

Need to recruit people to set up tables, staff communal booth, what else?

Actions: **Steve** will talk to city.) **Cheryl** will get Sandwich Board signs ready for mid June. **Steve** will prepare vendor form.

Checking account, finances and legal requirements:

Steve talked to both Carolyn Pearce at Key Bank and the IRS about requirements to open a checking account. We need : 1) either some individual to take responsibility and use his or her social security number (very bad idea) or 2) a ("doing business as" Name) DBA registered with the state for \$50 and a federal EIN (equivalent of business Soc. Sec. #) and official contacts. We will also need designated signors and money to open the account. **We** decided we also need a "buffer amount" to protect ourselves if someone bounces a check. This

\$25 *could* be refundable later, but we need to decide if it *should* be. At the next Salon, we will ask people interested in the Buyer's Club (Farmers' Market or Coop?), and we could solicit from our email list, to invest \$25 to start the account and provide the buffer. Ramona suggested that we look over or buy a copy of her business law text which she says is very user friendly so that we get more familiar with laws generally that will affect us.

Structure and Organization: We decided that at each step of the Coop's development we would try to keep the organization as simple as possible and not try to leap ahead to meet organizational future needs until we actually need to. We need to *think and learn* ahead, but not *do* ahead lest we burden ourselves with unnecessary regulations and work or unknowingly frustrate ourselves by starting down a road we won't want to go down. At this point **we specifically don't need to incorporate**, and therefore elect a Board or create bylaws. We'll just do what we need immediately to start the checking account and Buyer's Club and conduct the Farmer's Market.

Community garden:

Steve will be presenting the proposal for sponsorship to the City Council at the next Council meeting, 7 pm, Monday night June 19th. It would be very good if supporters of the idea came to the meeting whether they want a plot or not. So far only Steve, Cheryl, Anne and Dianne Baxter have shown interest in garden plots. The Plots will surround the croquet court in Pioneer Park with the city providing water. Steve, Anne and Cheryl will go over after this meeting to complete the water outlets. Rick Lehman will supply Stable compost to enrich the soil and build it higher. Anne, Steve and Cheryl have decided that this year, since it is so late, we will concentrate on building up the soil, rather than planting. Eric Gerber has a tiller we can use. Anne talked to Don Holt, whose driveway is the most direct route for Rick to use to bring in the composted manure/straw, and Rick has permission to use it if he let's Don know he's coming. Anne will give Rick and Don each others contact info so they know how to reach one another. The rest of us using the Croquet courts should use the park entrance for coming and going. Let's be sure to not abuse the neighbors hospitality!

Building:

Randy has completed breaking up the concrete which needed to be removed both inside and outside. He and Rick will be building the deck and Gazebo (around the back corner) to have ready for Randy's musical events (hopefully by Pioneer Picnic). Then they will start working on the inside steel support structures starting with the first floor. Then they can fix the roof. Merritt Schilling will be loaning them equipment and steel supports as the start again inside. The basic structures will get done before the rains come again, but time and money considerations will decide how fast it all happens beyond that.

Salon: 7 pm, Friday, June 23 at Corner Café

Movie on Farmer John about organic farming

Next Meeting: 10 am Saturday June 24 at Randy's