

# **Le Frigo Vert - Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

**Hybrid in-person and online meeting held Wednesday,  
November 08, 2023**

## Meeting Minutes

Minute-keeper: Kashish Makhija

Attendance: About 27 attendees present in-person and 12 participants online

### **1. Call to order**

Meeting is called to order at 5:06 pm

### **2. Nomination of Chairperson**

Morgan introduces herself as facilitator, nominates self as the Chairperson, Caleb seconded

### **3. Introductions**

- Morgan presents overview of Frigo Vert constitution, philosophies, programs and the Frigo Vert Collective team members; also introduces meeting question panel
- Mentions last call to apply for seat on Board of Directors •
- Quick community announcement from Caleb: introduces CultivAction and talks about their mission, encouraged members to join and shared online handles for members to learn more

### **4. CEO and Minute-taker Nominations**

- Jacqueline Dzandu nominated as CEO, Sarah seconded
- Kashish nominated as Minute-taker. Donny seconded

### **5. Adoption of Agenda**

The minutes were accepted as a fair representation of the last AGM (2022) and then vote to pass agenda approved, Donny seconded

## **6. Adoption of the Previous Year's Minutes**

Minutes adopted as fair representation from last year. Minutes approved by everyone, seconded by Donny

## **7. Annual Report**

- Morgan starts with changes made to the system since winning fee levy campaign in December 2022, some being increased collective wages, increased store hours a week (eight more a week)
- Donny comes up to talk about the cafe - cafe is now open for two extra hours a day, there have been two new suppliers (Jonathan from Paradise Bakeries rejoined Frigo, but we lost Natalia and vendor, Sue, who used to provide Jamaican patties)
  - Donny talks about how despite rising food costs, Frigo Vert was able to make a small financial profit from goods and services this past year
  - Donny discusses expanding grocery stock slowly, and Frigo will continue supplying fresh fruits and veggies at a low cost to students where possible, although challenging
  - It has been difficult to find vendors that are organic, ethical, vegan, and prices remain high)
  - Taking recommendations for new vendors and stock to add to store if anyone has ideas
- Morgan takes over to discuss PWYC herbs and spices
  - This system is going well, purchases cover stock cost and herbs and spices have been a huge success. Consumers enjoy variety of stock also
  - Helps generate excess funds
  - Praised resident herbalist, Hunter
  - Medicinal mushrooms are very popular. Supply is sufficient, quality high, and remains affordable for students
  - In terms of medicinal items, open to suggestions for what else can be stocked in store
- Sarah talks about health and wellness supplies

→ Plenty of space has been dedicated to health supplies such as menstrual products, gender-affirming and more. shoutout to Head and Hands, Concordia Students for Sensible Drug Policy (CSSD), and Sex and Self

→ Huge productivity in use of community space. Store space is available by donation. One year later- over 200 bookings made in the last year and \$9000 raised worth of donations! Excellent supplementary source of income → Installed two projector screens in the store and added more furniture on wheels

- Jessie and Morgan discuss successfully-facilitated workshops such as cooking workshops in partnership with the Art Hive, incorporating nutrition, creativity, and communal dinners. There were also other outreach workshops organized such as the workshop on sundance harvest, Medical Herbs and Mushrooms Workshop by Hunter, and Andrea's Queer Embodiment classes
- Andrea takes the floor and discusses newly-begun Queer Embodiment classes on Sundays and Mondays, and showed flyers
- Jessie re-touches base on outreach and events. Some notable events in the 2022-2023 year were Anti-colonial Week (turnout was better this year than previous years), film screenings with Cinema Politica, Split Red Wine Poetry nights several times, Drug Tales Open Mic Night with CSSD, Comedy Nights fundraiser with ASTT(e)Q, Wednesday tea time, Fall Clothing Exchange

## **Financial Updates**

- Sarah and Donny present and discuss the challenges faced by Frigo Vert during the pandemic
  - savings were lost, staff was leaving, inventory was scarce, and about \$250,000 worth of food and goods had to be given away to students and the community

- This financial hardship was reflected in the previous years' budgets and it was a time of uncertainty
  - In Fall 2022, a "mini vision" was formulated. The team adjusted staff wages, increased opening hours, and continues to seek professional support for bookings, trainings, and programs
  - Since winning fee levy campaign in Fall of 2022, funding was increased by 13 cents. In January of 2023, our levy increased from 33 to 46 cents/ credit, leading to a 30% increase of income added to our budget.
- Morgan concludes the Annual Report. Win of fee-levy campaign has awarded more security; gave thanks to the community and expressed appreciation for helping maintained a warm and supportive space
  - Morgan facilitates Q&A session. There are no questions

## **8. Board Report**

- Morgan introduces self as Board Representative and her role as liaison
- Morgan recaps the board's activity over the past year
  - Board met eight times since Winter to discuss programming, staff training, dispute resolution
  - there was a drop in board participation over the year. To rectify this, team will hit the ground running; the first meeting date and training date for this year has already been set
  - Thanked Rose, Veteran Board Member, as she will not be returning
  - organized outings throughout the year to build better relationships between Frigo collective and board.
  - More trainings and programming to come the upcoming year
  - Opened floor for questions. No questions

## **9. Board Nominations**

- Morgan thanks everyone for coming out, mentions Rose McCormick will not be returning as an existing member, and opens floor for candidate speeches  
Morgan explains criteria for board eligibility (membership at Frigo, current student at Concordia, explains voting system/ballot guidelines) and initiates nomination speeches for 2023-2024 board
  - Morgan introduces/reads statements of returning board members, Niveen Sawooq, Assaf, Mohammed Abdalreza Zadeh, Nauss and their strengths, goals, and drive for why to return to the board
  - New candidates, Ruba, Meta, (both self-introduced in front of the room), Ajaykumar, Sal Cuthbertson, Christina, Annik St-Arnaud are introduced by Morgan as they were absent
  - Nauss and Morgan open the floor for zoom candidate speeches; members, Crystal, Annik added to their initial statement, Saskia Recke-Smith give their speech
  - Member speeches on slide presentation continues; candidate, Haru, made their speech in-person. Two final candidates, MB TJ and Cal Thomas submitted their names but no supplementary information
  - Mohammed, existing board member, comes up to introduce himself to the crowd
  
- Morgan opens the floor for voting. Ballots are distributed across the room.
  
- Morgan officially announced a break while the ballots are being counted

- BREAK to count the votes -

- Meeting resumed at 7:08 pm

## **10. Announcement of Board Election Results**

- Upcoming year's elected board members:- Niveen, Assaf, Mo, Nauss, Saskia, Ruba, Haru, Meta, Annik

## **11. Closing of Meeting**

- Thanks and shoutouts to the team
- Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm, vote to adjourn by Ruba, seconded by Sarah
- Final closing call made in online Zoom meeting.