

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm (virtual)**

Present: Laura Weiss, Diane Krapf, Heidi Beierle, Erin Grant, Jessica Gillis, Alexander McIntyre, Randy Rydel, Noa Kauano, Lisa Sedlar

Absent:

Guest: Jenny Low

Facilitator: Holly O’Neil **Administrator:** Jade Vantrees

Topic	Key points	Outcome
Welcome, Introductions, Check-in, Agenda Review		
Member Forum & Board Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns over the flooding and impacts on farmers. Whatcom Land Trust is taking ownership of Cloud Mountain Farm Center. 	
Consent Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10/27 Finance Minutes Key Indicators for Oct 10/29 MAC Minutes 10/30 BDC Minutes 11/2 BOD Minutes - Fall Retreat 11/12 MAC Minutes P7 & P4 amendment “Other Donations” 11/18 BDC Minutes 11/25 Finance Minutes Key Indicators for Nov General Manager Monitoring: Asset Protection 2026 Board Calendar Approving a Monitoring Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facilitator confirmed everyone had read the meeting packet. 	Approved by consensus.
Board Chair Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring process for both the Board and the GM. We just approved the BOD Calendar for 2026 to help track monitoring and board work in the new year. 	
Updated 2026 Business Plan and Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both the Business Plan and Budget have been updated to reflect the feedback from the Board Retreat, the Finance Committee, and the Leadership Team. There are no significant changes. Usually, the Business Plan and Budget are approved in January, but because they are done early, the facilitator called for consensus with the understanding that final copies will be shared with the Board. <u>2026 Business Plan:</u> The plan is organized and thought-out. The Board appreciates the level of detail, using the “owners” and timeline, and framing it around the Strategic Plan. Lisa will bring regular updates to the Board. 	“2026 Budget” Approved by consensus. “2026 Business Plan.” Approved by consensus.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>2026 Budget</u>: We are feeling confident about our sales projections. The healthcare budget was increased. We're working to match hours to sales. We're returning to each store making their own sandwiches, etc. Utilities, cost of goods, health insurance, etc. are all going up. Note: There was increased holiday purchasing for the season. • The board approved the budget that Jenny shared this evening. • Action item: Finance Committee will check on the threshold for changes to the budget. 	
BDC report: Election update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks to BDC for all the work on this. We have a strong board and strong incumbents. • Election materials are now posted on the website with a link on the homepage. Posters are up in the stores. An email went out on Friday, Dec 5 to let members know about the election and our candidate orientation on Dec 16 at 12 pm. • We have one application and one person interested in the orientation and January board meeting. 	
Annual Meeting topics and speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (<i>Quick update from MAC</i>: Both MAC-hosted salve-making classes went well. About 70 members attended. Participants were highly engaged. We got a significant number of surveys back. Overall, glowing reviews. We can comfortably fit 40 people in the classroom. Timing and season were great. Other ideas: Table scaping, herbal classes. MAC will review the class surveys.) • Annual meeting topics from MAC: Food security. Bringing hope. What we can do. The economy. • Annual meeting topic brainstorm: 1) A deeper conversation on plastics and what we can do. D6 and the new program to the Co-op. 2) How can we impact the greater community. 3) Darrel Hillarie at Children of the Setting Sun. Salmon dinner with the spirit of gratitude. 4) Lisa could share the trends we're seeing. 5) Toward Zero Waste could be an option for food security; works with Co-op. 6) The impacts of the Co-op, like our donation program. The ways that we're making changes in the community. • Decision: Positive work and impacts in our community. Perhaps booths that represent several Co-op initiatives. 	
Spring Retreat: Date selection and off-site option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Retreat: Saturday May 2, 2026. • MAC and the Leadership Team will be joining us, for a total of about 25 people. • Location ideas: Squalicum Boat House (affordable; less on weekends). Parks and recs rentals, like Lake Samish. The Senior Center. Bellingham school district office (free we think). • Considerations: Food service and durables, convenience, affordability, and number of people. 	
Closing and Evaluation Next meeting: January 14, 2026		
Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm 	

These minutes have been approved by the Board of Directors.