

## DRAFT Minutes

**2016 Annual Meeting  
East Lansing Food Cooperative (ELFCO)  
April 16, 2016  
Okemos Library, Okemos, MI**

The Annual Meeting was convened at 12:30 PM. Owners and staff were asked to introduce themselves and tell what they value about ELFCO. Owners were informed that they could vote for candidates to the Board of Directors until close of balloting at 1 p.m.

Minutes for the 2015 Annual Meeting were presented and approved by a majority vote of the owners present.

Reports below were presented jointly by Board President Anne Woiwode, interim General Manager Bruce Grambau, and Bookkeeper Peggy Cunniffe.

2016 is the 40th Anniversary of ELFCO, and a brief review of the history of ELFCO was provided. In February, a 40th Anniversary party was held in the store with special sales, giveaways, music and the introduction of new discounts for ELFCO owners for the remainder of 2016. Additional activities may be planned during the year.

Reports were presented on the status of ELFCO's finances and owner information was presented. There was a discussion of the impact of the Board approval in 2015 to increase the owners equity share and its impact on the owner numbers and sales in the store. Concerns about the impact of additional competition further reducing sales were discussed.

Work with volunteers and staff to turn around ELFCO's fortune was reviewed, with particular thanks to those who volunteered to serve on an Advisory Committee for ELFCO. The Committee have provided input and assisted with outreach to owners, helping to increase engagement of volunteers and awareness of the plight of ELFCO.

Voting for the Board was closed and the winners were announced: Julia Kramer, Sarah Bijani, Daniel Ritter, Rebekah Hosford and Dev Poddar. Cristina Benton and Ray Kamalay, whose board terms ended at this meeting, were both thanked for their excellent service on the Board and to ELFCO. John Reich, Kristen Bieda and Anne Woiwode were thanked for continuing to serve as members of the Board.

Owners, staff members and supporters present at the meeting engaged in a robust discussion about the future of ELFCO, acknowledging challenges, identifying past mistakes and barriers to success, and brainstorming ideas for next steps.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.