**CHEA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

2604 Paramount Ave., Austin, TX 78704

Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 8:45 p.m.

Board members present: Donny Goff, Board Chair, Corey Williams, Board Member of La Reunion, Abigail Tatkow, Community Representative, Clayton Matthews, Treasurer, and Hannah Wright, Secretary.

Also present: Evron, of Sasona, Sam, of Sasona, Phil, of Sasona, and Ryan of La Reunion

Donny Goff called the meeting to order at 8:49 p.m.

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| **Agenda** | **Action** | **Comment** |
| Review of previous meeting’s minutes. | Donny moves to approve; Corey seconds; approved by consensus. Motion passes. |  |
| Treasurer update: leads for outside accountants; Maintenance Committee. | Discussion. | Ryan offered his services for $25/hour, on the condition that he would no longer be Treasurer at La Reunion.  Maintenance committee: made up of two house maintenance coordinators plus CHEA Treasurer. Andy is still out of town until this Friday. Andy’s availability is from January 23-27.  **Will meet Sunday, January 25, early evening, 5 or 6, at Sasona.**  Clayton sent out the maintenance spreadsheet, started by Nicole, double checked with Daniel. Is correct within a few cents. La Re had overdrawn their minor maintenance, by $600. So, that money is still in the CHEA account.  ~$4,000 in minor maintenance at Sasona. Need to work on handicap bathroom. Need to hire a contractor. Three projects in the works: finishing up electric conduit in Dark Side, bathroom, and insulation.  Maintenance Committee will hash out what projects and priorities they need.  The main thing is that the minor maintenance money needs to be spent by April.  Ryan is wondering how to get reimbursed for maintenance, now that it is not automatic.  So now, one house has gone over the allotted amount. Minor maintenance has been split already between the houses. This can be something talked out in the Maintenance Committee meeting.  **Clayton will send out an email about the date.**  Clayton is waiting to pay lease.  Outside accountant? Clayton has been talking to Daniel at NP about it. Daniel connected Clayton with an accountant located in California, who NASCO Properties uses. Has connections to Austin Co-ops, is hoping to make a Bookkeeping Co-op herself. Charges $300 for first quarter, and for second quarter $75. Also, an outside accountant might require lots and lots of scanning. Clayton will email NASCO lead. Also, Andy has connected with a few potential accountants.  **Clayton and Andy can continue winnowing down options, talk about it at the Maintenance Committee Meeting.**  Time to file another tax extension. Will be due on May 15. Two more months later, will be time to file for next year. Could we ask accountants who did our books to file taxes?  Could ask Nicole to file second extension? So, who will file taxes? Could pay someone to do it right--could be the NASCo connection.  **Clayton will get price from accountants who did books last year, plus the price from the NASCO connection in California. Will compare prices and report back.** |
| Co-op Tour update. | Discussion. | Abigail contacted Big Medium, who puts on EAST. They charge a fee, for consulting, so Abigail is still working through that with them. Because it would be best to not have to pay.  Abigail will try to contact others who count consult on getting together a Co-op Tour.  Donny tried to get in touch with Greenbriar in Bastrop, but, like many co-ops, they are hard to get a hold of.  Maybe we could contact whoever put on the intentional community meeting back in November?  Maybe we could lay the groundwork for fall? Spring is coming up soon! Could talk to Brian Donovan about it, also.  Could talk about it at the GMM, get a natural committee formed up. Could also try floating it at house meetings, to get an informal committee formed.  **Let houses know about Co-op Tour! Informal committee, anyone?** |
| NASCO Properties Board Representative nominees: creating a shared ballot. | Discussion. | Sasona still accepting nominations. The NASCO Board meeting is soon--in a few week, in mid-February. Travel is reimbursed. Ask Daniel for info.  **Find out exact NP rep into. Send out email about nominations. Close nominations on Sunday, January 25 Monday, January 26, pass out ballots to both houses. By next Sunday, February 1, both houses will count ballots.**  **Post ballot on Monday, January 26. Duo-ballot with nominations from both houses. Hannah will be the bean counter, and Donny will be the other bean counter for the ballots.** |
| Word from Avalon Co-op’ers? | Discussion. | Abigail reached out, and they did not get back to her… So no word yet… Could try reaching out again... |
| Word from Marjorie Daw? | Discussion. | Dinner on January 26… At Marjorie Daw… Are we supposed to bring anything? Is it a potluck? Maybe we could bring a little something to eat.  Abigail will email Don Jon to find out details. |
| Planning the General Membership Meeting in March. | Discussion. | To be hosted at Sasona this year, since La Re hosted last year. A meeting of the General Membership! Hooray!  Will not be during SXSW… Sasona Labor Holiday is March 14…  Maybe Saturday, March 7th? Could talk to BlackStar about getting a keg - -talk to them early! YAY ACBA!  Will ask Sasona about hosting and the date. La Re could bring the keg. Time could be in the afternoon. Will ask Sasona about what time works best. |

**New Business:**

**Sam Bean**: during the meeting, you mentioned finding an event planner--Sam is in training to be a consensus facilitator. So, keep Sam on the radar, since he is moving out his volunteer phase and is looking for work as a facilitator. The next round of Sam’s training is in Texas. He might be in a position to recommend co-ops for facilitation.Sam wants his training to assist La Re and neighboring coops, like Marjorie Daw. To make a long story short, Sam is offering his services, free of charge, if they are pertinent to the coops. Hooray!

Side note: La Re is consensus now! Has been for a few months. Did a trial period with it, then voted to adopt it.

**Donny Goff:** Donny, Ryan and Hannah Frankel met with Leslie Pool, City Council Representative! They were her first meeting for the year! Sam Bean was on her campaign team! They talked for an hour, Leslie had aides working with her, talked about coops, and affordability, and how coops are educational and empowering! And skill building, like maintenance, too. Leslie Pool took it well, said that she would like to explore what they can do at the city level to make co-ops more integrated into the city! It was the first talk, exploratory, said she would visit La Re. Just imagine what we could do with money from the city! Donny recommends that Sasona find out who the City Council rep is, could ask Ryan to come, too, he has some ins with City Council Members, it doesn’t hurt for us to try to become more insiders. Worse that could happen is that we are right back where we started. Would be good for coops to have friendlier zoning in city, easier access to city bonds. Overall, was a very positive experience with Leslie Pool! So, we have an in with Leslie Pool and Greg Cazar on City Council, also Ann Kitchens. Best to coordinate agendas when talking with City Council reps.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Hannah Wright, Secretary

**Agenda for CHEA Meeting**

Tuesday, February 3, 2015, 8:45 p.m.

La Reunion Coop, 1790 Gault St., Austin, TX

1. Treasurer update: maintenance decisions, taxes, and accountants.
2. General Membership Meeting: date and details.
3. Co-op Tour update.
4. NP Rep: do we have one?