

Letter to Editor, by Root Routledge, 3-26-2015
Time Urgent — DNF Board Application Period Closes April 3rd

Upcoming DNF Board of Directors election applications due by 5 pm, Friday, April 3rd. Voting begins April 25th (www.DurangoNaturalFoods.coop for details and application packet).

Five of seven seats are open. This creates a remarkable opportunity for an entirely new majority and a new direction for a better DNF future. We need five applicants; Root Routledge is one of them. You can find my vision for DNF at www.AlpineAnalytics.com/DNF/Root-TopPriorityAgendaForNewDNF-Board-April-2015.pdf. I present a campaign pledge for a new, safe, and healthy co-op, titled: “Top Priority Agenda for a New DNF Board of Directors.” We need four other likeminded applicants to make this opportunity a reality; please read my pledge and consider applying.

There are two widely different visions for Durango Natural Foods Co-op. One is that of the current Board, who now identify themselves in the election packet with a new moniker “DNFC”; replacing the “DNF” we’ve all used for the past 40 years.

Their “DNFC” vision holds to an old “Policy Governance” structure, where the Co-op is treated as an “entity” and the Board is not engaged with its internal soundness; they simply control it like a corporate business unit, merely hiring, firing and managing the General Manager. This allows them to do “entity things;” like deciding to spend thousands of dollars preparing it for sale to an organization in another state, which is what they did this past summer. That was stopped when over 200 members signed a petition against the sale and against this Board doing any further damage. We stopped the sale; unfortunately, we were unable to prevent further damage and our Co-op has suffered impacts to its functionality, staff morale and turnover.

In the document (link above), submitted with my application, I lay out plans for a new “DNF” vision. This member-democracy vision redefines DNF’s management structure with a modern more effective management approach; and a complete rewrite of the DNF Bylaws that will ensure our security as a locally owned food cooperative and democratically empower the general membership and member-employees for a healthy future.

Please join me to create a modern, healthy and safe new DNF.

Root Routledge, Durango