

Your Food Front Board.

David Richardson: Board member since 2008. Current term ends 2011.

I am manager working in the high tech industry. I have had a lifelong passion for healthy and local foods, and I joined the board to be engaged in the local food economy and to provide a service to Food Front.

I think the biggest issue facing Food Front in the next 5 years is remaining competitive and sustainable - we need to successfully serve the communities in which we operate and do the best job possible partnering with our local food suppliers.

Evan O'Neill. Board member since 2011. Current term ends 2011.

I like to think of myself as a recovering lawyer in a chef's jacket. I practiced law for 5 years and then took a 5 year sabbatical to live in France and attend culinary school before finding my way to the pacific northwest and my current position as a paralegal in a law firm in downtown Portland. Becoming an owner of Food Front and attending a Food Front annual meeting were some of the first things I did upon moving to Portland in 2008. I was immediately impressed with the openness of the board members and the passion and commitment of the Food Front employees. I felt a very strong sense of community at this event and a subsequent desire to get involved with the Food Front board.

Currently, I am a newly appointed board member and board Secretary. I am also a member of the board's bylaws taskforce, which coordinated the process of amending Food Front's outdated bylaws (presently before the owners for approval).

I believe that Food Front serves a valuable role in our community by providing locally grown and sourced food at reasonable and fair prices. As a Food Front board member, I will work hard to help maintain and further define the vital link between Food Front and its owners and the public while also ensuring Food Front's continued financial sustainability in an increasingly competitive market.

Faye Yoshihara. Board member since 2010. Current term ends 2013.

I was raised on a row crop farm in Eastern Oregon and my first profession was as a food technologist. Since then, I've been on the great circle route of international business and now back to my original interest in local food. I joined the board to support Food Front's position as a business and community leader in the development of our local food-shed.

I believe that in the next 5 years, Food Front should focus on increasing membership and growing profitably in the face of increasing competition.

Joy Orevik. Board member since 2009. Current term ends 2012.

I was educated in Europe & US, I am Chief Executive Officer of a growing corporation with diverse business interests particularly in the transportation and humanitarian fields.

My decision to explore and then join the board is based on my person pledge to get involved in and to give back to the community.

I believe in the next 5 years, Food Front should focus on continued financial sustainability, support of local start up food producers, board training and outreach to members and potential members.

Brandon Rydell. Board member since 2008. Current term ends 2013.

I am a professional IT Manager. I earned my bachelors in business administration from University of Washington and masters in Software Engineering from Portland State University. I am also a certified Project Management Professional.

I have always enjoyed the local food co-op communities near me. For variety and to meet new people, I volunteered a few years back at People's Food Co-op and loved it so much I decided to run for their board but just before running for that board, Food Front opened a store in my neighborhood so I decided to run for the Food Front board instead.

In the next 5 years, I believe Food Front needs focus on understanding the interests of its Owners and strive to serve those interests to the fullest extent possible. Today I believe Owners want the co-op to provide convenient access to wholesome food. I would like to see our Owner base at least double in the next 5 years & for Owner engagement to rise to levels never seen before.

Nate Mason. Board member since 2008. Current term ends 2011.

I have degrees in sociology and law and migrated from the professional practice of law to urban gardening and community organizing. I served for three years on the board of the Davis Food Coop, including a year as corporate Secretary. I joined the Food Front Board to be active in the community and produce positive results for the food cooperative movement.

I think the most important issues facing Food Front in the next 5 years are: Its capacity to produce positive results for the local community by providing access to affordable, nutritious, local food. Also, Food Front stands as gate guard for its shoppers, and their buyers are entrusted to source products that are healthy, helpful, and safe in a time when it takes a lot of research and care to be sure what you are putting into your body is actually good for it.

Linda Jauron-Mills. Board member since 1997 with a multi-year break. Current term ends 2013.

I have a BS in Biology and a MS in Marine Resource Management. I have previously worked as a Cancer Research Assistant, and a Natural Resource Specialist. I currently work for Tri-Met. I started with the coop in about 1976 cutting cheese and picking up Tofu and milk, since I had a pickup truck at the time. I was asked in the store one day, if I would like to assist the board of directors, and here I am.

In the next 5 years I believe the board should focus on educating the public about the cooperative's position in the community, and how it relates to their personal lives. Keeping the cooperative healthy, in an increasingly competitive market, and the effect of fluctuating energy prices on the food supply system.

Russ Nelson. Board member since 2005. Current term ends 2012.

Social Justice Issues have been a great concern to me and work on such issues has become a great passion. When I was asked to consider joining the board, I was in search of a way to serve and serving Food Front on the Board of Directors was a great fit.

Food Front has great opportunity to work through education and community connections to address issues of Food Insecurity and to ensure the development of a sustainable Local Food System. Over the next 5 years, I believe these should be priorities.