

An illustration of a hand holding a white fork. On the fork is a stack of vegetables: a green cucumber slice at the bottom, followed by a carrot, a green broccoli floret, a purple eggplant, and a green leafy vegetable on top. The text 'Run for the Board' is written in a white, stylized font across the middle of the vegetable stack.

Run for the Board

Board Candidacy Info

Fall 2023 Election



Have you ever considered running for the New Pioneer Co-op Board of Directors?

Serving on the Board is a responsibility and an opportunity open to all owners of New Pioneer. Within the cooperative structure, the owners, the management, and the Board each have their own particular duties to perform. Guided by the mission statement and goals of the Co-op, the Board concentrates on strategic decision making, long-term planning, and on the business's financial soundness. An active, well-qualified board is essential to a healthy co-op. Our ownership is diverse and talented. We know that many of you are qualified and willing to serve.

What are the qualifications?

Leadership experience in business or community organizations is a great asset. Experience preparing budgets, reading financial statements, and doing long-range planning are helpful. Communications and marketing skills, and experience working with management and functioning as part of a cooperative team are all valuable. It's very important for Board members to know how a business operates.

What commitment is required?

Terms are three years. The Board may require up to six to eight hours per month, depending on committee responsibilities and Board projects. Directors generally attend monthly meetings, as well as special meetings as needed. One or two one-day Board planning sessions may be scheduled. Each Board member serves on a Board committee. These committees meet as often as is necessary to address committee business. Board members also attend the Annual Owner Meeting.

Is compensation offered?

In recognition of their important contribution, Co-op Board members receive a \$250/month honorarium.

Is training or education provided?

Yes. The Board holds an annual retreat to evaluate the past year and "kick off" the annual planning cycle. Normally, new Board members are assigned to committees with at least one experienced Board member. In addition, New Pioneer Board members are encouraged to attend co-op conferences held annually.

Are there other benefits to being on the Board?

New Pioneer is proud of our active role in the community. It's a good feeling to put your skills to work directing one of the area's most progressive businesses. You can provide leadership on important New Pioneer issues such as cooperative ownership, consumer advocacy, employee satisfaction, and ecological awareness. Work with bright and talented people on something that really matters—quality food, cooperatively distributed.

How can I learn more?

Applications and information are available at our stores and online at www.newpi.coop.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE BOARD:

Please return application no later than 5PM
on Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

By email:

Email applications to mroling@newpi.coop.

OR

By mail (please also confirm with a phone call) or hand delivery:

New Pioneer Food Co-op Store Support Office,
Attn: Melanie Roling
22 S. Linn St., Unit 2A
Iowa City, IA 52240

New Pi's Store Support Office is in downtown Iowa City on the southeast corner of Linn St. and Iowa Ave. in Tower Place Parking Ramp, 3rd floor, west end, open M-F, 8AM to 5PM.

Questions or Concerns

Please contact Melanie Roling, New Pi Election Oversight Staff Member, at mroling@newpi.coop.

Questions about Board issues or procedures?

Contact Dana Judas at dana@newpi.coop.

Our mission statement:

We are a sustainable and forward-thinking local food marketplace, defined by:

- shared economics, community enrichment, and partnerships in the Corridor
- widespread and diverse participation
- identifying and meeting the needs of members and future members

Board Responsibilities:

1. Decision Making

The primary decisions the Board makes are: 1) long-term planning; 2) managing fiscal responsibilities; 3) mission statement fulfillment. Other areas of Board decision-making include legal, policy development, and compliance.

2. Advisory

The Board serves in an advisory capacity for both management and owners. Directors should always be prepared to make a recommendation (as a whole) to Co-op owners on any action put to owners for a vote.

3. Trustee

The Board has a clearly established and binding function as a trustee for the owners in the Co-op. This responsibility dictates that directors set aside any personal interests and any specific interest of portions of the ownership to act in the best interest of the ownership as a whole. Ultimately, the Board is responsible for managing the assets of the Co-op in such a manner as to protect the owners' investment within the scope of the organization's purpose.

4. Continuity

A fundamental task of the Board is to provide for the continuity of the Co-op. The Board accomplishes this in two primary ways: 1) by selecting and guiding an effective general manager and ensuring adequate management succession planning is taking place; and 2) by making certain a capable and effective Board always exists to direct the Co-op's affairs. Its vitality must transcend the tenure of individual managers and directors.

5. Leadership

A function of the Board is the symbolic one of serving in a leadership capacity to the owners and to the community. Effective leadership focuses on maintaining the system through which an individual and an organization can effectively function and act. Directors must be prepared to participate in visible activities associated with the Co-op's community role.