Sara Dinges

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors? I believe the Chicago Market is and will be a catalyst in Chicago's local food scene. Having worked in local neighborhood development for 10 years on Chicago's north side, I believe there is great potential and power in offering a cooperative that boosts our local economy, creates jobs and positively impacts the regional food economy. I would like to lend my time and energy to continuing Chicago Market's momentum and helping to realize its physical long-term location.



Do you have previous Board experience? Local First Chicago, board member 2011-2013

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board? Since 2008, I have worked in community and economic development in Andersonville, Edgewater, Uptown and Pittsburgh, PA. I have worked closely with small businesses on start-up, financing, zoning, licensing and more. Additionally, as the Executive Director of the Andersonville Chamber of Commerce and the previous ED of Uptown United, I have worked in non-profit management and community engagement, helping to steer the vision for creating more vibrant, healthy, local, unique neighborhoods.

What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? After my family and my community, I am most passionate about food! My maiden name is Posteraro and you might guess by that from where my family and food roots come.

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past? Shopping at food co-ops.

What food issues are you passionate about?

Accessibility and equality for all; using food to bring people together.

The Chicago Market Board is a working board (as opposed to a governance board). Does your schedule permit you to make the necessary time commitment to help make Chicago Market a reality?

Yes.

Yanira Doyle

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors? I want to be part of something I believe in. Something that feeds my soul as opposed to just my belly. In my mind, The Chicago Market represents a need in our society. We need to bridge the gap between local growers/ providers and consumers creating a more sustainable symbiotic model for addressing a cornerstone need, sustenance. With the focus on quality over quantity and the greatest good. According to the website and my visit to the pop up market I went to last year, that's what I believe The Chicago Market is about.

I believe the business model for grocery stores/markets etc. going forward will change to a more cooperative model which is essentially going back and I want to contribute to that.



Do you have previous Board experience? **No.**

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board? My professional experience is in Construction Management and Design. I work for a well-known General Contractor in the Chicago area working on ground up construction projects to include Whole Foods, Mariano's and Aldi Stores. Aside from construction grocery stores I've managed projects of all kinds; residential, hospitality, healthcare, schools etc. My experience also includes Design build as well as a pure design capacities.

From a professional perspective my contribution to this organization would be construction related to include establishing the construction budget, value engineering to reign in the cost and offering an experienced eye in the construction process.

What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? I'm passionate about food, people and the overall human experience. I currently volunteer with the health hub preparing farm to table meals.

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past? When I lived in New York I was a member of the Park Slope Co-op.

What food issues are you passionate about?

The decline of our foods quality and development of food sensitivities. I'm a purist in some respects when it comes to food. Food is natural and in its natural state it cannot make us sick. For food to make use sick it's a contradiction in nature and evidence that we are out of alignment.

Something has happened (we are out of alignment) in our food supply and our understanding of what food is which has caused food to turn against us. The breakdown in our whole process from soil to table and all the short cuts we've taken as a society in the name of efficiency has cause use serious problems that land us in the care of our medical system.

This topic could turn into a 15 page report but I think you get the gist of what I'm saying, so I digress :).

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Lee Herman

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors? To continue my work supporting the web site and IT operations and strategy of Chicago Market. This is a key area for community engagement pre-store opening. As we get closer to store opening, IT strategy for operational systems will become a critical support function for running the store and needs to be in place before the store opens.

Do you have previous Board experience?

President, Courtlands Civic Association, Arlington, VA - worked with neighbors and County Board, Planning Commission to revise County



Master Plan and Neighborhood Plan to preserve single-family neighborhood two blocks from Metro stop. President and Board Member, Avondale Coop Apartments (40 units), Washington, D.C. - responsible for normal board activities, part of committee that organized special assessment for replacement of all windows and replacement project. Chair, IMS Database Technical Development Project, GUIDE (IBM Mainframe User Group) - responsible for organizing presenters from IBM and volunteers from Guide member organizations and companies. FARM (Folk Alliance Midwest Region) Official Showcase Coordinator - work closely with FARM Board to organize submissions for showcases, recruit volunteer judges from music industry and collect required information from submitters in form needed by program editor and sound crew. Chicago Market Webmaster - work closely with Board members on requirements for web site changes.

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board? Almost 40 years of IT experience as technologist and 20 years of leadership experience. Produced 10-year Application Technology Plan for GEICO of which 5 years were actually implemented, Technical Director for implementation of global (57 countries) converged video, voice and data network, consulting engagements with C-level executives, restructured my organization of 400+ system support people to double the staff to manager ratio with no loss of function or reduction in staff while maintaining the same or higher levels of people care. Responsible for \$80 million software budget and participated in all contract negotiations with legal and procurement staff, approval authority for all contracts. Developed first relational database application for GEICO in early 1980s - what today we would call a CRM (Customer Relationship Management) system. Responsible for all GEICO Auto Policy application maintenance and development - required gathering business unit requirements and getting approval for budget from business units for implementation.

What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? I'm passionate about eating in a healthy way so I'm personally invested in having more places to buy healthy food. I'm concerned about the sustainability, healthfulness and human costs of our food production and see Chicago Market as a key piece in providing markets for small farmers and producers, connecting them with consumers and providing a consistent income stream. I'd much rather give my money to a co-op than Amazon/Whole Foods.

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past?

My parents were founding members and we were members for 6 years in the Mountainview Market Coop in Las Cruces, NM. We did 95% of our grocery shopping there the entire time we lived there. It was wonderful. My daughter moved to Chicago several years before I did and she told me the one thing I would really miss about Las Cruces was the co-op and she was right! In college, I was part of a group

of 40 students who want to follow either vegetarian or Zen macrobiotic diets which was feasible (just) on the meal plan at breakfast and lunch but impossible at dinner. We got the food service to give us use of a small kitchen in one of the co-op residence halls, we provided menus and shopping lists and they provided groceries. Cooking rotated among the 40 members of the group, two per night, so we all learned to cook healthfully and on a large scale.

What food issues are you passionate about?

Healthful eating, sustainable production, food waste, appropriate treatment and pay for workers in all phases of production and sales, availability of healthy food for all levels of income earners.

The Chicago Market Board is a working board (as opposed to a governance board). Does your schedule permit you to make the necessary time commitment to help make Chicago Market a reality? Yes, I'm already working on the website and attending Board meetings regularly and have discussed the additional commitments with Board representatives.

Gregory Berlowitz (Incumbent)

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors? I am currently on the Chicago Market Board of Directors and am up for re-election. I am the Founder of Chicago Market, and helped form the initial Steering Committee and organize the first elected Board of Directors. As a member of the Board of Directors, I am eager to help secure a site for the store and be part of the team which sees the store come into fruition.



Do you have previous Board experience?

I have served on the Chicago Market Board of Directors from January 2015 through October 2015, when I left the Board to become Chicago Market's Director of Funding. I rejoined the Board in November 2016 and have served continually since. I previously sat on the Board of Directors of the Land Connection, which trains farmers in resilient, restorative farming techniques; informs the public about the sources of our food and why that matters; and works to protect and enhance farmland so that we, and generations to come, will have clean air and water, fertile soil, and healthy, delicious food.

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board? I am an attorney, with extensive writing experience. I worked for years in the restaurant industry, have volunteered with local farms, and have lived my personal life in a manner consistent with Chicago Market values. As a member of the Chicago Market Board of Directors, I have served on the Site Team, helping evaluate potential sites, and on the Leadership Team, helping to steer the organization and keep our timeline on track. I have also volunteered for the marketing and other teams. In our recent proposal for the Gerber Building, I was the primary editor of our RFP response. I also was the primary author of a recent grant application to the USDA. As the Director of Funding, I have established relationships and paths for funding with five local and national banks and funding institutions, began work on TIF funding, and have designed and planned the Owner Loan Campaign.

What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? I know everyone on the Board already. :) I am ready, willing and able to work hard, with discipline, and in any manner necessary to serve the Board and the Owners of Chicago Market, a huge number of whom I know personally.

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past?

I was part of a food co-op in college, helped start a buying club in Chicago, volunteered for three years in the Common Ground Food Co-op in Champaign, and have been a member of Willy Street Co-op and the Wedge Co-op.

What food issues are you passionate about?

I am passionate about the sources of food: where it comes from, who grows it, how it was grown, what inputs were used in the production, how it is processed, distributed and sold. I am passionate about the work of farmers and want to support local farmers who are environmental stewards of the land we all share. I am passionate about food workers, who I believe deserve good wages and benefits. I am passionate about the USDA National Organic Program standards, and concerned about its misgivings and compromises which have led to confusion, lack of trust, and misinformation, as well as non-transparent substitutes.

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Yes.

Xuan "Sunny" Nguyen

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors?

- 1. To be a part of the decision-making process in the next critical stages
- 2. To play specific roles in liaising with law enforcement and the Vietnamese/Asian communities should we procure a site in Uptown
- 3. To support a diverse board that represents different backgroun Do you have previous Board experience?

During college - volunteered as a board/council member involving Vietnamese/Asian cultural support on campus and the logistical operation/execution of the annual campus housing draw.

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board?

I work in Law Enforcement, which I think is important to engage, particularly if we procure the Gerber Building.



What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? I am new to Chicago so am eager to establish roots and find community in the area (purchased in Buena Park).

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past? No experience.

What food issues are you passionate about? Ensuring high quality food is available and accessible to low-income residents.

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Yes.

Anthony Todd (Incumbent)

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors? I've been a part of Chicago Market since before it launched in 2014, and am so proud to have watched it grow and develop, first as a member of the steering committee and now as a member of the board of directors. As Chicago Market gets closer to finding a location and fulfilling our goal of bringing an amazing cooperative market to the north side, I want to continue to contribute my time, expertise and enthusiasm to make this project a success.



Do you have previous Board experience?

In addition to my time on the Chicago Market board, I have served on the junior boards of several non-profits, including the Legal Council for Health Justice and Public Interest Law Initiative.

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board? My professional expertise allows me to contribute to the board on multiple fronts. As a professional food journalist and editor, I have helped manage the marketing team at Chicago Market, crafting emails, blog posts and press releases. I have secured many of the mentions that Chicago Market has received in the media, and contributed to the strategy that has made us a recognizable and respected brand. As an attorney, I have helped to manage Chicago Market's search for a real estate lawyer and hope to soon work on the search for a general manager. I also have extensive experience with local and sustainable food, and bring that experience, as well as a lifelong love of co-ops, to the Board.

What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? I could not be more excited to help secure a site for Chicago Market that will make it a permanent part of Chicago's local food infrastructure.

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past?

I have been a member of four food co-ops in the past, including co-ops in Minnesota, lowa and Illinois.

What food issues are you passionate about?

I'm passionate about issues related to reducing food waste and increasing the availability of sustainable meat and fish.

The Chicago Market Board is a working board (as opposed to a governance board). Does your schedule permit you to make the necessary time commitment to help make Chicago Market a reality? Yes.

Dana McKinney

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors? I believe this is a crucial time in the life of Chicago Market. As we inch nearer a decision on the site where we'll build our store, activities are gearing up to put into action many of the plans we've made. I feel my 25+ years in Specialty Retail Management, Human Resources, and Learning & Organizational Development are uniquely suited to assist the board in many of the tasks we have before us, such as hiring a General Manager and other staff members, and loading in the store and preparing for a Grand Opening.



As an owner in a co-op, I realize we each need to bring our skills and talents to the table and work together if we truly intend to build a better food community. I joined Chicago Market because I believe a community- and mission-driven co-op *can* change the local food landscape. I am committed to working as a board member to successfully achieve that goal.

Do you have previous Board experience?

Yes. I served for six years on the board of my condominium association, serving in the roles of Treasurer and President during that time. I have also served on the Church Council for my congregation for six years, serving as Secretary and Member at Large, and am currently a member of our Pastor Search Committee working to call a new pastor to serve our congregation. Additionally, I have participated in many cross-functional, high profile, project teams in my job as the Senior Trainer for American Girl which have all required skills similar to those needed for board members.

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board? As mentioned previously, I have worked for over 25 years in Specialty Retail Management, Human Resources, and Learning & Organizational Development. As a retail manager, I have managed departments with annual sales plans of \$3M+, staffing of 60+ employees, and the customer service standards expected of a premiere retail environment. As a Human Resource Manager, I was responsible for the hiring, training, performance management, and talent development of a retail store with approximately 250 employees. In my current role, I oversee the design and development of all the training programs for the 20 American Girl retail locations across the country.

The skills I've acquired in these roles give me an advantage in not only understanding what it will take to hire and train the employees that will staff our market, but also the collaboration skills required to work with a diverse group of people in cross-functional assignments towards common goals. I feel I should also mention that I have additional experience working in Stage Managenment positions both in Equity and non-Equity houses. Putting on a professional theater production is unlike any other task I know! As they say, "the show must go on" and it does, no matter what chaos might be happening behind the scenes. So my skills from this experience, which I would bring to the board include things like creative problem-solving, project management, handling pressure, critical thinking, and teamwork.

What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? There are some additional things that don't necessarily fall under "skills and experience" which I feel are invaluable to working on a committee such as a Board of Directors. For example, character traits such as being respectful and inclusive, patience, creativity, enthusiasm, flexibility, and humility are important

to the personality of people serving on a board. I would include all of these as applicable to me. I am also known to be very thorough and detailed in my work, as well as reliable and resourceful.

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past?

I admittedly have very little experience with food co-ops. I have shopped in co-ops, but have never previously been involved as an owner or otherwise. I have learned much about co-ops in my time with Chicago Market so far and look forward to learning even more.

What food issues are you passionate about?

I am passionate about eating F.L.O.S.S. - fresh, local, organic, seasonal, and sustainable. I appreciate food that's not processed unnecessarily with chemicals that could affect my health. I want to eat food grown locally so I can reinforce the local economy and help keep farmers on the farm. And I want to ensure that the methods in which these foods are provided to me are sustainable - for the earth, for the farmer, and for me. Many of the values already identified by Chicago Market align with my relationship with food and my expectations for our food community.

I am also very passionate about providing premiere customer service. I've worked for companies where exceptional service is the standard, so that is my expectation, both as a customer and a service provider. I am excited about getting the opportunity to make Chicago Market a store known for their service and commitment to customers, owners and non-owners alike.

The Chicago Market Board is a working board (as opposed to a governance board). Does your schedule permit you to make the necessary time commitment to help make Chicago Market a reality? Yes. In fact, I have actually been attending Chicago Market board meetings since I joined in December 2016. With the exception of February, when I was out of town, and May, when I had to leave after the Volunteer Meeting portion, I have already attended every other board meeting held this year! I also participated in the two community meetings held in May regarding our bid on the Wilson Station site. I am currently signed up to help with several other events on the volunteer calendar.

Ankit Mehta

Why would you like to join the Chicago Market Board of Directors? The Chicago Market is in a crucial time. As an owner and an individual that is passionate about the direct-to-consumer & local food movement, I believe that my skillset, pragmatic attitude, and entrepreneurial experience can add meaningful value to the next chapter of growth.

This is a long-term project that I will derive meaning from and put my heart into. I have been looking for such a project and I believe the time is now to double down on my contribution to Chicago Market.



In addition, a personal catalyst will allow me to begin contributing more time to Chicago Market beginning in September. As such, I would like to make this time investment more formal through boardship so I can best influence the direction of Chicago Market towards its mission and make it a reality."

Do you have previous Board experience?

I have had three primary board experiences. First and currently, I have been a board observer and consultant at Illinois Medical District Guest House, where I am currently developing their major gifts development program. Several years ago, I also participated in a one year boardship at the University of Michigan - Center for Entrepreneurship where I supposed university efforts to build a student entrepreneurial culture. Lastly, I have also gone through formal training during my schooling at Chicago Booth for boardship positions, learning about governance, fiduciary responsibility, and direction setting.

What professional/career expertise would you bring to the table to make you a good fit for this Board? I have worked in entrepreneurial environments where uncertainty exists and multiple stakeholders are working to balance ideals and practicality. I understand decision making and balancing the ideal and necessary information shortages required to push projects forward. I am very experienced in iterating, project managing, working with people from many backgrounds (& opinions) and can bring balance to the board.

Functionally, I have marketing, sales, IT, strategy, and operations experience. I have been formally trained through business school and I bring near 10 years of professional experience operating in and with start-ups.

Lastly, I am a very fast learner. When there is something new, I aim to understand the greater concepts that govern a project, task, or idea and use the concepts to develop myself and those around me.

https://www.linkedin.com/in/ankmehta/

What else should we know about you that would make you a good candidate for this Board? As a leader, I believe in progress over perfection. Working on such a large, complex project such as the Chicago Market requires significant management of details, opinions, and options. By joining the board, I am promising progress in areas where I am responsible, with tangible deliverables and outcomes that I will hold myself and my team accountable to reach.

What experiences have you had with food co-ops in the past?

Candidly, my experience is limited. Chicago Market has been my first exposure to food-coops. However, I do understand the retail environment and pick up new skills and concepts quickly.

What food issues are you passionate about?

Three core issues:

- (1) I am passionate about being mindful about what you eat. People should better understand what goes into their bodies and learn about where food comes from.
- (2) I am passionate about community and building an autonomous network of farmers and community members that are self-reliant and have strong relationships with each other.
- (3) I am passionate about disrupting the local foods movement I have traveled the world and for some reason, America is one of the only countries that has had a difficult time making this movement a reality and I am excited to materialize this into something tangible that has a strong consumer and supplier value exchange.

The Chicago Market Board is a working board (as opposed to a governance board). Does your schedule permit you to make the necessary time commitment to help make Chicago Market a reality? Yes. As I mentioned earlier, I will have a catalyst occur in September that will allow me to contribute significantly more time to the CM.