

Candidate Name: Emmarie Burger

Owner Number: # 255

Hometown: Glen Ellyn



Do you feel you may have any potential conflict of interest with Prairie Food Co-op?

No

Will you be able to attend Board Meetings that occur on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month?

Yes

Why are you interested in serving on the Prairie Food Board of Directors?

I would like to be in a more active role in developing the Co-op

Employment: Please tell us about your Past or Present Employment

McMaster-Carr Supply Co for 29 years

Volunteer: Membership/Affiliations past and present

Ownership & Outreach Committee for 2 years

Volunteer: Leadership positions held past and present

Glen Ellyn Backyard BBQ (Fundraising & Marketing)

Volunteer: Honors/Awards Received

Which of the following areas do you have expertise?

Management, Fundraising, Event Planning, Finance

Please provide details on any marked expertise below

Management role in operational areas at work for 25+ years

What experience, education, and skills do you have that you feel will contribute to your effectiveness as a Prairie Food Director?

I'm a very organized, dedicated & passionate person-especially about those things that are important to me. I also pay close attention to nutrition and the foods that I buy & cook for my family.

I feel that my operational background will be an asset.

What are your personal goals for Prairie Food Co-op?

To further educate myself & others about what a Co-op is & how valuable it is to the neighborhood & local farmers.

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

None

What do you hope to achieve from your board experience?

To learn more about opening a Co-op and be a valuable contributor to the process.

Candidate Name: Jessica Buttimer

Owner Number: # 311

Hometown: Glen Ellyn



Do you feel you may have any potential conflict of interest with Prairie Food Co-op?

No

Will you be able to attend Board Meetings that occur on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month?

Yes

Why are you interested in serving on the Prairie Food Board of Directors?

I believe strongly in the mission of the Prairie Food Co-op and want to be a part of the vibrant team that is working diligently toward its success.

Employment: Please tell us about your Past or Present Employment

Currently a stay-at-home mom, I enjoyed eight years as a user experience research consultant with User Centric, Inc (now a part of GfK). As a Senior Research Director with GfK, I sold, designed, and managed large global usability research and design engagements. For five years prior to that, I designed, developed, and implemented web-based customer relationship management (CRM) systems as a programmer for Nuveen Investments. Rounding out my portfolio of gainful employment, I have been a horrible waitress, an unimpressive administrative temp, a too-nice bill collector, a lost 'gopher' of insurance documents, a freezing-cold jar scraper for a cheese factory, an excellent sandwich artist, and a loving, though exhausted, babysitter.

Volunteer: Membership/Affiliations past and present

In addition to volunteering for Prairie Food Co-op at events and performing website updates, I currently volunteer in the same capacity for the Abraham Lincoln PTA and The GardenWorks Project.

Volunteer: Leadership positions held past and present

None Currently

Volunteer: Honors/Awards Received

NA

Which of the following areas do you have expertise?

User Research

Please provide details on any marked expertise below

What experience, education, and skills do you have that you feel will contribute to your effectiveness as a Prairie Food Director?

Years of client management experience has taught me how to work well with others, be open to multiple perspectives, and collaborate towards consensus. In addition, reading non-fiction, learning, organizing, and concise communication are a few of my favorite things and will contribute to my effectiveness as a Prairie Food Director.

What are your personal goals for Prairie Food Co-op?

As a board member, I have no personal agenda for the Prairie Food Co-op. Rather, I am most interested in adhering to our mission of creating a marketplace for local, sustainable, organic, and transparently labeled food.

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

None

What do you hope to achieve from your board experience?

I hope to better understand the inner workings of the co-op and our sustainable food chain, deepen relationships with fellow owners, and actively contribute to the successful opening of The Prairie Food Co-op.

Candidate Name: Michelle Coppedge

Owner Number: # 125

Hometown: Lombard



Do you feel you may have any potential conflict of interest with Prairie Food Co-op?

No

Will you be able to attend Board Meetings that occur on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month?

Yes

Why are you interested in serving on the Prairie Food Board of Directors?

I'm excited and passionate about the success of our grocery store!

Employment: Please tell us about your Past or Present Employment

Purchasing at The Cary Company. Also have a lot of sales & customer service experience.

Volunteer: Membership/Affiliations past and present

ESL teacher through the Literacy Foundation of Illinois. 2012-2014

Volunteer: Leadership positions held past and present

Volunteer: Honors/Awards Received

Which of the following areas do you have expertise?

Management, Event Planning

Please provide details on any marked expertise below

Management of customer service persons. Event planning - annual trade show through work.

What experience, education, and skills do you have that you feel will contribute to your effectiveness as a Prairie Food Director?

Work well with people, can speak in front of (smaller) groups, very comfortable with computers, taking on new challenges.

What are your personal goals for Prairie Food Co-op?

To open our grocery store before the end of 2017 and have it be a huge success right of the bat!

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

PFC is my first!

What do you hope to achieve from your board experience?

Learning & overcoming new challenges. Helping get the PFC to new levels more quickly and successfully.

Candidate Name: Theresa Giambrone

Owner Number: # 265

Hometown: Lombard



Do you feel you may have any potential conflict of interest with Prairie Food Co-op?

No

Will you be able to attend Board Meetings that occur on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month?

Yes

Why are you interested in serving on the Prairie Food Board of Directors?

It has been such a rewarding experience by serving on the Board in the last year. I want to continue to grow with the Co-Op and be a valuable resource in all the important decisions ahead. It is such an exciting time for the Co-Op where we may be involved in lease negotiations with a potential site, begin the owner loan campaign, and hire a general manager that will make our co-op be everything we ever wanted.

Employment: Please tell us about your Past or Present Employment

Accountant in Inventory Control/Finance Department at OfficeMax/OfficeDepot

Volunteer: Membership/Affiliations past and present

Feed My Starving Children

Volunteer: Leadership positions held past and present

Secretary on the Prairie Food Co -Op Board of Directors

Volunteer: Honors/Awards Received

Which of the following areas do you have expertise?

Management, Finance

Please provide details on any marked expertise below

What experience, education, and skills do you have that you feel will contribute to your effectiveness as a Prairie Food Director?

I have majored in Accounting and Finance at North Central College in Naperville. Having served on the Board has exposed me to what the Co-Op needs in order to be successful in the future.

Financial security is one of the many aspects that the Co-Op needs to maintain and I believe my financial background will help keep the financial pro-forma up to date.

What are your personal goals for Prairie Food Co-op?

Personally, I want to help in making financially sound decisions for a successful future for the Co-Op. We are in a critical point in opening up the grocery store and many crucial decisions need to be made on how to move forward. Being able to stay financially stable throughout the next stages is my goal for the co-op. I would be willing to be hands-on with the upcoming Owner Loan Campaign to make sure we are on track with the finances.

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

In the past, I was part of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) in college where I worked with a coffee bean Co-Op in Guatemala. Our group has helped distribute the coffee beans to local Walgreens stores in order to expand their sales. I understand how a Co-Op is different from other business structures and love to be involved with the community.

I have also been on our Prairie Food Co-Op Board for the last year working along side with very dedicated board members.

What do you hope to achieve from your board experience?

I have never seen so many dedicated people working for the same goal. We have many wonderful owners that want to make our community better and stronger. It is refreshing to be involved in such a positive environment. The Board has a such a drive to make a difference that it empowers everyone around them to continue towards making this Co-Op a reality.

Candidate Name: Arkadiusz Golonka

Owner Number: # 356

Hometown: Lombard



Do you feel you may have any potential conflict of interest with Prairie Food Co-op?

No

Will you be able to attend Board Meetings that occur on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month?

Yes

Why are you interested in serving on the Prairie Food Board of Directors?

I care for my community and the food we eat.

Employment: Please tell us about your Past or Present Employment

Operations Analyst, Procurement Manager Supply and Demand Planner. I have a broad range of sourcing, contracting and finance skills.

Volunteer: Membership/Affiliations past and present

Interim PFC Board Member

Volunteer: Leadership positions held past and present

Interim PFC Board Member

Volunteer: Honors/Awards Received

Which of the following areas do you have expertise?

Management, Finance, Contracting

Please provide details on any marked expertise below

I have managed many projects and people. The projects scoped from process improvements to billion dollar initiatives.

What experience, education, and skills do you have that you feel will contribute to your effectiveness as a Prairie Food Director?

I have a Bachelors in Operations Management along with various professional certifications. I feel my finance, contract negotiation, and procurement experience in the food industry will be

valuable before and after the doors open. I also have a broad range of trade skills resulting from my completion of the HVAC program at ETI in Addison.

What are your personal goals for Prairie Food Co-op?

My personal goals are to ensure a fair, just and accountable environment while we gain funding and transition into a brick and mortar location.

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

I was a customer.

What do you hope to achieve from your board experience?

I hope to expand my leadership and policy governance expertise.

Candidate Name: Dan Wimsatt

Owner Number: # 436

Hometown: Downers Grove



Do you feel you may have any potential conflict of interest with Prairie Food Co-op?

No

Will you be able to attend Board Meetings that occur on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month?

Yes

Why are you interested in serving on the Prairie Food Board of Directors?

I have been involved in food coops for approximately the last 20 years. However, since moving to the Chicago area 8 years ago, I have not had regular access to the many benefits of a food coop, except when I travel back to my former homes in Madison Wisconsin and Ann Arbor Michigan. I am hopeful that my past experience and excitement about food coops could be helpful to Prairie Food Coop.

Employment: Please tell us about your Past or Present Employment

I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and have been working in this field for the last 16 years. I am self employed and work in the Loop. I have been a primary counselor on inpatient drug and alcohol treatment programs since 2001. I love what I do for my job!

Volunteer: Membership/Affiliations past and present

I have been involved in many coops in the past. I was a member at the People's Food Coop in Ann Arbor Michigan for 9 years and the Willy Street Coop for the 2 years that I lived in Madison Wisconsin. Additionally I have lived in several housing coops in both Ann Arbor and Madison. While living in Ann Arbor I was also actively involved with the North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO). Lastly, I was involved in a Bio-diesel coop in Madison.

Volunteer: Leadership positions held past and present

When I lived in Ann Arbor I was the Ombudsmen for the Student Coops at the University of Michigan. This was a position for which I was appointed by the President of the Coop. My job was essentially to help mediate any disputes that arose between any members of the various coop houses on campus.

Volunteer: Honors/Awards Received

I was nominated for Best Supporting Actor Oscar in 2005.

Which of the following areas do you have expertise?

Management, Marketing/Public Relations, Event Planning, Finance, Anything that might be helpful.

Please provide details on any marked expertise below

I am not exactly sure what constitutes expertise in the above areas. I think that it would be accurate to say that I have experience in a variety of settings in the above areas. I am pretty flexible and adaptable to working in various settings with different groups of people.

What experience, education, and skills do you have that you feel will contribute to your effectiveness as a Prairie Food Director?

I have a lot of coop experience, as mentioned above that I hope could be helpful to the Prairie Food Coop. I have a Masters Degree in Social Work and an undergraduate degree in Business. I would imagine that both of those educational experiences might be helpful as a director on the Board. Further, I feel that I have the personality and temperament to work well with others in a variety of settings. I feel that I have good communication skills, both in writing and in speaking.

What are your personal goals for Prairie Food Co-op?

I would love to see the Coop thrive and become a place where people come not just to buy awesome local organic food, but come together as a community. One of the things that I so loved about the coops that I was involved in in the past was a sense of community and of knowing one another. I have several close friends who work in the Organic Farming field and feel excited to be involved in knowing more about local organic farms, etc. I would love for my sons Sam and Charlie to grow up going to a food coop.

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

See my answers above, in short, a lot.

What do you hope to achieve from your board experience?

A sense of helping the coop to thrive and to meet some other folks with similar hopes and passion for sustainable and local food.