

## Application Form for the Franklin Community Co-operative Board of Directors

*Deadline for submitting is February 1, 2019*

Name: Andy Grant  
Member: #3750  
Address: 120 Pulpit Hill Rd, Unit 44, Amherst, MA 01301  
Telephone: 413.325.6245 (mobile)  
Email address: andrew.palmer.grant@gmail.com  
Current occupation: Information Service Specialist with Sociocracy For All (so4all.org)

Please answer the following questions (these will be available for all member-owners to read):

- Why do you wish to serve on the Board?

At the conclusion of my first term, I have decided to stand for re-election to serve another 3 years on the board because I love the Franklin Community Co-op for its essential role in region's food system and community life.

As many people know from my prior work with Just Roots, I am a champion of healthy food access. That will continue to be a driving interest for me. However, I have a concern about FCC's style of governance that is pressing at this time. Based on the experience of trying to use majority vote to advance the board's work, I have a vision for introducing consent-based decision making which I think is more harmonious with cooperative values and sets us up to be more inclusive of the whole community. For the last three years, I have been training in Sociocracy (so4all.org) and I am eager to bring that knowledge and experience to our work.

In the larger frame, bolstering a food co-op is one of the things I can do to address unequal access to healthy food and as society transitions in response to climate change. We need to pull together, share resources, listen deeply, and foster hope and courage.

- What do you see as the significance of the co-op and what is your relationship to the Co-op/that significance in the community?

When I came to the Valley more than a decade ago and was emerging from a personal crisis, one of the first things I did was to join the Franklin Community Co-op where I knew I could find good food and community connection. So for me this co-op has become a kind of home base to receive support/nourishment and give service. Being diligent in my work as a board member is important and satisfying for me. I think we have a talented General Manager and I am

supportive of the expansion plan for Green Fields Market because I think it will provide more room for our operational staff and our customers. It will also position the store for increasing productivity and relevance to the surrounding community. I love the fact that members can volunteer with community organizations for credit in the store.

- How has your work/life experience taught you the general skills listed on page 2 of the Board information sheet? Please be specific.

*Generalized Skills:*

- Interest in serving the Franklin Community Co-op and commitment to its mission & values

Totally on board (so to speak!), especially with the 7 cooperative principles and FCC's longstanding service especially to community members who struggle financially and otherwise.

- Ability to effectively discuss complex goals and future implications of decisions

Check. I strive to give my best attention and creative problem solving to my work on the board while always attending to the human dynamic.

- Ability to read financial statements

Yes. While accounting is not 'my thing' I work hard to digest and understand the information being presented.

- Communication and group process skills

I think I communicate clearly and effectively and am uniquely attentive to group process.

- Understanding of and commitment to Board requirements for confidentiality

When required, I hold board information in confidence.

- Ability to meet time commitment of 5-9 hours per month

Yes, I meet or exceed this requirement.

- Commitment to learning about and becoming competent with Policy Governance

Yes. I have a good working knowledge of policy governance and see its value.

- Which of the specialized skills (listed on page 2 of the information packet) or other community or organizational experience would you bring to your board service? Again, please be specific.

*Specialized Skills:*

- Business experience, retail or wholesale (especially grocery)

I helped staff the CSA distributions for Just Roots and to manage the automatic EBT payments.

- Experience working with complex organizations

My whole adult life I have engaged in complex organizations, including churches, church agencies, higher education, and nonprofit startups

- Experience with real estate acquisitions

A home purchase and rental contracts.

- Labor relations and/or personnel management experience

None apart from supervising and directing volunteers and staff assistants.

- Marketing experience

I designed, produced, and marketed a board game called Diamond Bridge and I have shown my photography in galleries and taken commissions.

For Just Roots, I promoted the CSA and generally talked up our scrappy nonprofit with anyone who would listen. I innovated the Local Food Clinic which continues to this day in collaboration with FCC and others.

- Financial analysis and/or investment experience

None except personal finance/investments and service on the board

- Leadership and group facilitation skills

Advanced skills, especially in consent decision making as modeled by Sociocracy For All.

- Other board of directors experience

Three years on FCC

- Other co-op experience

Provided technical assistance and promotional support to Steve Alves, director of the co-op movie *Food For Change*.

In 2018, I was the first paid employee of the startup Amherst Food Co-op — now the Common Share Food Co-op — and helped reach the 500 member milestone.

- Experience with food growing or preparation

Managed the Just Roots community garden with 30 plots where people grow their

own food.

- After reading the enclosed article, “Policy Governance and the Role of the Board,” do you have any questions, concerns, or comments about Policy Governance?

I understand policy governance and find it a particularly helpful tool for fulfilling the board’s requirement to monitor operational performance. It is my judgement that Policy Governance and Sociocracy are mutually compatible.

- Is there anything else, relevant or irrelevant, that you would like us to know about you?

While I have moved to Amherst where I live in the Pioneer Valley Cohousing Community, I return regularly to Greenfield and maintain ties with Just Roots, the Franklin County Jail and House of Correction, the Franklin County Resource Network, and the Recovery Learning Community, among others. I consider the Greenfield area to be a major focus of my work and am confident in my ongoing availability to serve the Franklin Community Co-op.

Thanks!

~Andy

**Thank you very much for your interest in the co-op and its governance!**

By the nomination deadline, please bring, mail or email all materials to:

Franklin Community Co-op/Green Fields Market  
144 Main Street  
Greenfield, MA 01301  
Attn.: Sarah Kanabay, Outreach & Communications Manager  
Sarah.Kanabay@franklincommunity.coop

*or* Deliver to her mailbox at Green Fields Market

## Nomination Form

Candidate's Name: Andy Grant

Candidate's Address: 120 Pulpit Hill Rd, Unit 44, Amherst, MA 01002

Member Number: 3750

All candidates must be nominated by 3 current **members**.

(One member (number), one vote. One name only per member number)

I nominate the above candidate to run for a seat in the 2019 Board of Directors election of Franklin Community Cooperative:

1. Member Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Member Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Member Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Return Form To:** Sarah Kanabay, Outreach & Communications Manager, by 2/1/19