



# 2023 Board of Directors Elections Call For Candidates



*Weaver Street Market is a vibrant, sustainable food marketplace—defined by shared economics, shared community, and shared knowledge; driven by widespread and diverse participation; for owners and potential owners.*

YOU are invited to run as a candidate in this year's Board of Directors elections!

- Are you committed to Weaver Street Market, what it is and what it can be?
- Have you been a Weaver Street owner for at least a year?
- Are you excited to engage with varied groups of owners, and translate diverse perspectives and cultures into shaping a vibrant cooperative?
- Are you willing to assume a leadership role, delegate authority, and be a team player?

Each year, two of Weaver Street Market's seven-member Board of Director seats are open for election to a two-year term—one consumer-owner seat and one worker-owner seat.

Applications are due Tuesday, August 22, 10 pm.

## The Board Provides Strategic Leadership

- Invite owners into conversation about what is important to them.
- Focus on the big picture—craft a compelling vision from a broad range of views and values.
- Engage current and potential owners in appreciating Weaver Street Market as a cooperative, including how varied perspectives and cultures can be honored and how their everyday behaviors and choices contribute to collective success.

## Desirable Board Member Qualities

Weaver Street Market Board candidates are dedicated to the cooperative and its mission, and they are willing to understand and contribute to the task of governance.

Board members and the Board's work—content, discussions, and communications—need to be reflective of an expanding consumer and worker ownership with different and many needs, backgrounds, ethnicities, cultures, and viewpoints. Applicants of diverse cultures, beliefs, and abilities, and of different genders, orientations, and ages are openly welcomed.

Qualities that allow for being a great Board member include:

- Understand and commit to the role of trustee – have fidelity to the ownership and commitment to Weaver Street Market's success.
- Connected to the ownership – increasingly listen to owners, seek diverse perspectives, and account for cooperative performance.
- Ability to work in a group – participate assertively in deliberation, share power in group process, abide by the intent of group decisions, and take responsibility for the performance of the Board as a whole.
- Accept authority and use it responsibly – accept the importance of the position; be willing to deal with values, vision, and the long term; delegate areas of decision-making; and judge performance using clear criteria.

## Commitment

Weaver Street Market is a vital community-based enterprise. Governing the cooperative effectively is a serious commitment.

Board members are expected to:

- Become versed in the Board's governing system, serving on behalf of a diverse ownership, and being a cooperative business and the environment in which it operates.
- Prepare for and actively participate in monthly Board meetings and two retreats.

Elected Directors may serve up to four consecutive two-year terms. Thereafter, a Director may not run for the Board nor otherwise hold appointed office on the Board for two consecutive two-year terms.

## Benefits

Board members:

- Receive on-going training about cooperatives and governing effectively.
- Build skills in group dynamics, group process, and engaging with diverse perspectives and cultures.
- Receive an annual stipend of \$1,200 in the form of store credit.
- Have the opportunity to ensure the success of our community-owned cooperative.

## Opportunities to Learn More

Thank you for your interest in being a candidate for Weaver Street Market's Board of Directors. The candidate application process provides opportunities for you to learn about the work of the Board and to assess your interests in assuming a leadership role.

Candidate Orientation Session  
*Wednesday, July 26, 6 pm, online via Zoom*

This interactive session provides potential candidates a chance to engage with the Board about its work. The session also provides information about other opportunities for contributing skills, perspectives, and leadership. Attendance at the session is a requirement for candidacy.

Additionally, candidates are required to speak with at least one Director during their application process. This is an excellent way to learn about their experiences being on the Board and to share your interest in serving on the Board. Please email a Director to set up a time to talk:

Amy Wares, amy.board@weaverstreetmarket.coop  
Anna Williams, anna.board@weaverstreetmarket.coop  
EmJ Jakubowics, emj.j@weaverstreetmarket.coop  
Ruffin Slater, ruffin.s@weaverstreetmarket.coop  
Susan Singer, susan.board@weaverstreetmarket.coop



## Eligibility

Each year, one consumer-owner position and one worker-owner position are open for election by the shareholders of the respective group. Any current owner in good standing who has been an owner in their current class of ownership for at least one year by the date of their application is eligible to become a candidate.

## 2023 Candidate Application Process

Choosing to become a candidate involves three steps:

- STEP **1** Read through and be clear about the application process.
- STEP **2** Complete two required activities. (see details above.)
  - Attend the Candidate Orientation Session on Wednesday, July 26, 6 pm, online via Zoom.
  - Talk with a current Board member.
- STEP **3** Complete and submit the enclosed application form. Applications are due on Tuesday, August 22, 10 pm. Weaver Street Market Board policies do not allow for write-in candidates after the application deadline. Email application to [elections@weaverstreetmarket.coop](mailto:elections@weaverstreetmarket.coop).

If you have any questions about the application process or if you need any further information, please contact Brenda Camp at [brenda.c@weaverstreetmarket.coop](mailto:brenda.c@weaverstreetmarket.coop).

# 2023 Board Candidate Application

## Weaver Street Market BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Only complete applications that conform to the following format and that are received by 10 pm on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, will be accepted by the Elections Committee.

Please email your responses to 1 through 7 below to [elections@weaverstreetmarket.coop](mailto:elections@weaverstreetmarket.coop). You will receive confirmation that your application has been received.

**1) Your contact information (for staff use only):**

Owner Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

(Please specify preference)

Please answer each question below using a question/answer format. Limit your responses to a total of 1,000 words. Your answers will be published as your candidate statement. Please do not include hyperlinks or urls.

- 2) Describe your occupation and community involvement.**
- 3) Why do you want to serve on the Board of Directors?**
- 4) What experience do you have with Weaver Street Market, cooperatives, or small community-minded businesses?**
- 5) What diverse experience, skills, or perspective will you bring to the Board?**
- 6) Include anything else about yourself that you may like others to know.**
- 7) Contact information you want published with your candidate statement.**