

Kim's summary of events from August 6th through August 18th

Brian and I were told about the merger in early June. It was again discussed outside of the Board meeting in June and in an executive session in July. Brian and I didn't know much about the merger, we had asked a few questions and received no answers... we were told not to talk to La Montanita staff or their GM Terry Bowling. The Board tried to keep us out of discussions and spent money on lawyers and accountants, against my advisement and a lack of a budget, to assist in the wording of the Letter of Intent for the merger. We were also told not to tell staff or members; a big weight to bare.

Wednesday, August 6th

- The board met with staff at 3:30 p.m.. the meeting consisted of the Press Release (sent prior) being handed out and Geoff stating we were "merging" with La Montanita. Terry Bowling La Montanita's GM also spoke to staff.
- 7:30 pm at Eno the Board, Brian and I, Terry from La Montanita and about 8 members met. I was told this was an open meeting a Q & A session. It was similar to the meeting with the staff, the Press Release was handed out, Geoff stated we were merging with La Montanita said it was a great opportunity a win/win/win. Terry spoke briefly there was overall a positive response.

Thursday, August 7th

- I met with Victoria from the Board to tell her the staff felt that the delivery of the merger was not met well by staff and that staff does not want Geoff to represent them in the merger.

Friday, August 8th

- Geoff asked me to send off the Press Release as is in the e-mail blast
- I sent the release to Brett for him to work on Monday

Monday, August 11th

- We hold a staff meeting to discuss merger. Some people are pro merger, most are upset at the Board. We compile a list of questions for La Montanita, I send them off that afternoon.
- E-mail blast is sent off early

Wednesday, August 13th

- I receive Terry's responses from the staff's questions to La Montanita and share them with our staff – staff is outraged that the few selling points they were most interested in seem to be lies, i.e. everyone keeping their job and prices being lower (which I have verified with the NCGA as they have no way to guarantee our prices would be lower that would then be up to LM)
- I sent the Board their weekly report with this attached

Friday, August 15th

- I receive a phone call from Geoff while at work, in the warehouse where he asks why staff is telling members that staff will lose their jobs. I tell him because it is true. He gets upset and says it is not and I tell him to read my e-mail I sent on Wednesday.

Monday, August 18th

- I receive a phone call from Geoff, again I am in the warehouse, saying that some members are calling him saying that our DNF e-mail blast is biased (from prior week) and that we are not able to talk about the merger in the e-mail blast any more. He says the blast says that members have a right to know and vote and that isn't true. I say that isn't true, we are a cooperative and every member deserves to know the truth.
- DNF Board Meeting at Turtle Lake Retreat Center