

Date: 8/12/2014  
From: Brett Massé, DNF Web & Email Communications  
To: Root  
Subject: Reply to Root's 8/11 Alert Email

Root,

First off, thank you. I'm really happy to see your comments. It's refreshing for me. Secondly, I encourage you to come to the next Board of Directors meeting next Monday, the 18th, at 5:30. Because of the amount of people concerned and confused, the meeting will likely be held at Turtle Lake Refuge's Retreat Room. I'll be getting flyers out this week as well as all the details for the meeting in Thursday's email blast. I'm making sure everyone knows. You are certainly not alone in your feelings and I'd love to see you at the meeting. Spread the word!

Brett Massé  
Design Lead  
Durango Natural Foods Co-op

---

Date: 8/12/2014  
From: Sarah Ransom, Longtime DNF member and donor  
To: Root  
Subject: Reply to Root's 8/11 Alert Email

Root -- Thanks for the alarm -- the thought just wandered through, having read your email: If we become a part of a "corporate" co-op merger, with non-local management — then we can kiss goodbye our "membership" benefits at the checkout stand, right? The Connor family of my partner donated a lot of money and physical input to the creation of a local co-op healthy food store and thus earned "life-time membership" -- Soooo, what WAS member-owned/operated DNF will become just another impersonal big-store, new-age corporate supermarket, another "Natural Grocers" I suppose?

---

Date: 8/12/2014  
From: Kimberly Wiggins, DNF Co-GM  
To: Root  
Subject: Reply to Root's 8/11 Alert Email

Hi Root,

I wanted to thank you for your e-mail and let you know I forwarded it to each board member. There are many members as well as staff who are very upset by the proposed merger. I encourage you to come to the board meeting next Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the Rocky Mountain Retreat (address below).

\*\*\*Following board meeting: Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 5:30 p.m.

Location for both meetings:  
*Rocky Mountain Retreat Center (TLR)*  
848 E 3rd Ave, Durango, CO 81301

Off E 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and between E 8<sup>th</sup> St and E 9<sup>th</sup> St

Best Regards,



**Kimberly Wiggins**

**Co-General Manager**

**Finance & HR**

**Durango Natural Foods Co-op**

575 E 8th Ave., Durango, CO 81301

p: 970-247-8129 extension 115

[accounting@durangonaturalfoods.coop](mailto:accounting@durangonaturalfoods.coop)

---

Date: 8/14/2014

From: Jeff Watson, Nature's Oasis, Owned by Watson Family

To: Root

Subject: Reply to Root's 8/13 'KEEP DNF LOCAL Follow-up Alert Email with additional info and meeting notice'

Root:

Thanks for keeping me up to speed on this CRAZY issue. I completely agree w/ you and your thoughts. Shifting anything away from DGO and the control of community members is just not a good idea for DNF. In all honesty, it would probably be some slight increase in business for our store Nature's Oasis, if it happened; but I do not think it is in your members best interest to "merge" w/ an out of town entity. Even if all control were left in the DGO communities hands, there are so many cons and few if any pros to this concept.

I know you have probably explored this, but the original charter and by-laws probably describe the processes for mergers, sales, and end-of- business actions. It is hard to believe that any action would be allowed without at least a 2/3 vote, if not a unanimous approval, as each member is a portioned owner, not only of the business, but the real estate as well.

I would bet that there is a member-attorney that shares your position. If DNF has counsel, he or she should also be available to vet the "no" side of things.

Keep me up to speed, and anything I can do to help.

Jeff Watson, Owner

Nature's Oasis

---

Date: 8/14/2014

From: Pat Blair, DNF Manager from 1974 to 1983; Co-Founder of Rocky Mountain Retreat dba Turtle Lake Refuge

To: Root

Subject: Reply to Root's 8/13 'KEEP DNF LOCAL Follow-up Alert Email with additional info and meeting notice'

Hi Root,

Thanks for the updates. I authorized this announcement to be sent to 700 Turtle Lake Refuge members today and have been calling other long-term DNF members and encouraging them to tree phone others. We must keep the energy going to stop this!

See you Mon. at 5:30.  
Pat Blair

Announcement that went out to 700 Turtle Lake Refuge members:

- 1) DNF MEMBERS UNITE! Come to an informational board meeting Monday, August 18 at 5:30 pm at the Rocky Mountain Retreat, 848 E. Third Ave. (Front side of house-Turtle Lake Refuge). Let your voices be heard!**
- 2) No board has the right to sign any Letter of Intent to possibly merge Durango Natural Foods Coop with La Montañita, an Albuquerque-based coop, without extensive local membership involvement from the very beginning.
- 3) Unversed in the 40 year history of DNF's initial collective efforts in creating and sustaining operations, the DNF Board WITHOUT MEMBERSHIP KNOWLEDGE entered into a three month negotiation designed to give away this community asset. The membership has been blind-sided by being given only weeks before the final vote which begins October 5th.
- 4) Durango Natural Foods Coop, (DNF), is a LOCALLY OWNED, LOCALLY OPERATED low cost, quality food outlet. DNF members have collectively participated through their labor, gifts and loans for 40 years to create and support THEIR quality cooperative food source. THIS LEGACY MUST BE DEFENDED AND REMAIN LOCAL.**

---

Date: 8/20/2014

From: Sarah Roberts-Cady, FLC Professor

To: Root

Subject: Reply to Root's 8/13 'KEEP DNF LOCAL Follow-up Alert Email with additional info and meeting notice'

Root,

Way to organize! I'm so impressed!

I hope the meeting went well and I will happily sign the petition!

Sarah

---