ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT

March 24, 2026



March 24, 2026

By Sarah Chandler, for the Animal Welfare Committee

The PSFC Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) is a small nine-member group committed to helping our membership access information about the animal welfare standards of the products carried at the Coop. For over a decade, we have been researching products for sale at the Coop and producing guides for the membership to aid in decision--making.

Our most recent one was the 2025 Turkey Guide—our annual guide to all of the

turkeys for sale in the Coop during Thanksgiving, as well as all the alternatives available. This year we had 10 vendors selling turkeys to the Coop, plus five plant-based roast options available. We also include fun produce facts—my favorite is that the Coop sold 3,700 pounds of Brussels sprouts in the two weeks before Thanksgiving!

The Animal Welfare Committee also tries to keep the membership informed of any significant animal welfare news through our social media feeds. Recently, for example, we wrote about new regulations in Switzerland requiring labels that disclose whether practices like castration, dehorning, tail docking or teeth clipping were carried out without anesthesia. We also wrote about federal policy changes under the Trump administration that reduce industry oversight—allowing faster assembly line speeds in certain slaughterhouses and eliminating safety advisory panels—and potentially increase the risk that more animals will be processed while still alive.

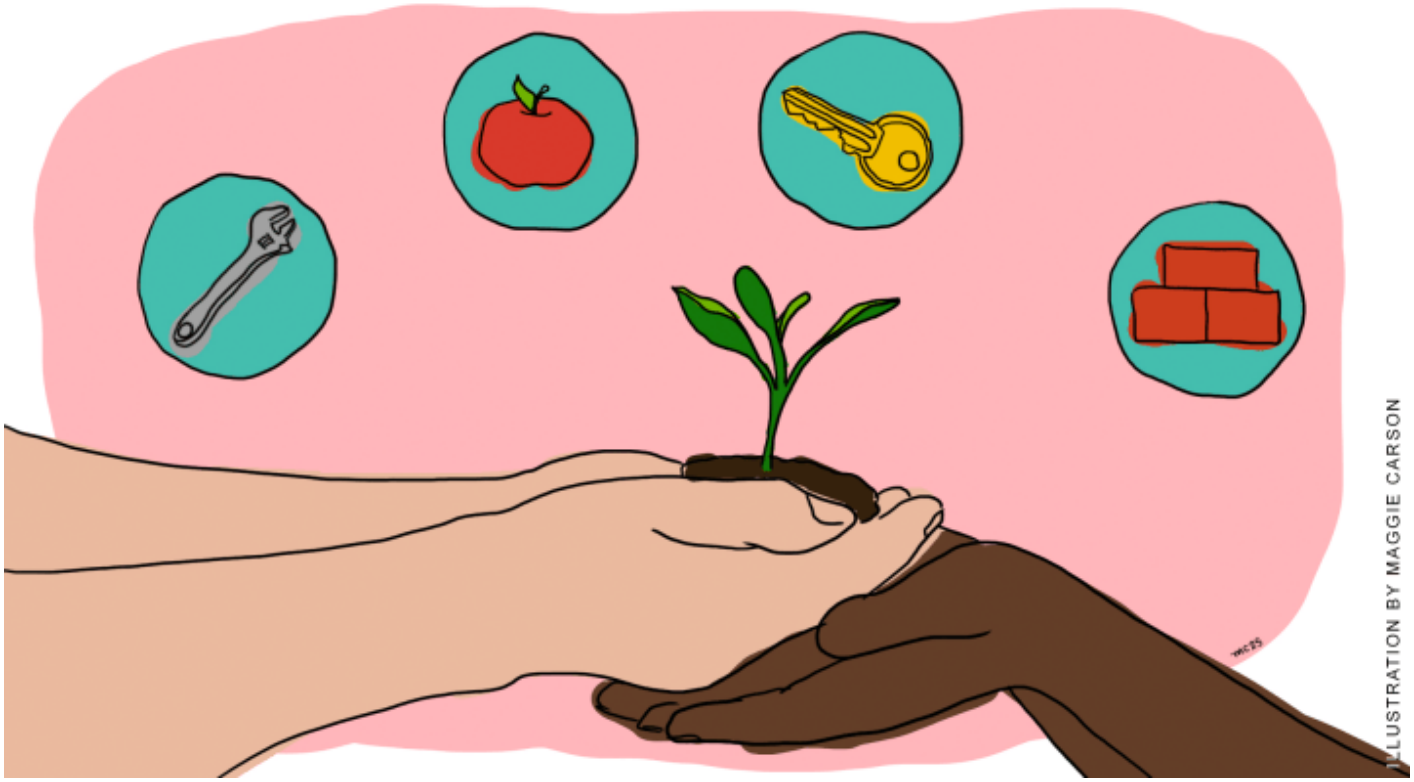
Most recently, the committee has been looking at news about shrimp and prawns. As evidence that shrimp and prawns can feel pain increases, large grocery retailers in the UK are beginning to change their sourcing practices. Traditionally, shrimp and prawns are killed using an ice slurry—a mixture of ice and water that slows their movement but leaves them potentially conscious as they slowly freeze or asphyxiate. In response, some retailers now require suppliers to adopt electric stunning, a method designed to render shrimp and prawn unconscious before death. These commitments also include ending eyestalk ablation, a practice in which one eye of a breeding female shrimp is removed to increase egg production. In the US, there has not yet been retailer pressure to change these practices.

Our committee has guides to beef, chicken, dairy milk, plant-based milks, animal testing, eggs, egg alternatives, pork, butter and fish. We are working on guides for ice cream, pet food, cheese, yogurt, cheese alternatives, butter alternatives and more! If you have questions about the animal welfare of any product the Coop carries you might find your answer in these guides or we always welcome member questions and suggestions! Please contact the AWC by emailing psfcanimals@gmail.com. You can also find the AWC on X and IG at @psfcanimals or Facebook at fb.me/psfcanimals. The

AWC blog (the best place to view our guides) is psfcanimals.blogspot.com.

REVOLVING LOAN COMMITTEE REPORT

March 24, 2026



April 1, 2025

By Kathy Martino and Wendy Fleischer for the RLC

The Revolving Loan Committee manages the Fund for New Food Coops.

The Fund for New Food Coops supports start-up food coops that rely on member labor. Using donations from the Park Slope Food Coop, its members and other supporters, the Fund for New Food Coops offers low-cost loans to help new food coops pay for the critical items that enable them to grow and to generate income. Examples of appropriate uses for loan funds include rent deposits, refrigeration and other major

equipment and physical upgrades to shopping or storage space.

The purpose of the Fund for New Food Coops is to expand the role of member-run cooperatives in bringing healthy food at low prices to residents across Brooklyn and beyond. New, strong food coops will ultimately help the Park Slope Food Coop better satisfy its burgeoning membership and help meet the skyrocketing interest in food cooperatives. Providing favorable financing and, thereby, demonstrating the credit worthiness of new coops is one concrete way the Park Slope Food Coop supports nascent food coops and is aligned with the Cooperative Principles that encourage mutual support.

Currently there is more than $60,000 available in the Fund.

The fund has made two loans to the Greene Hill Food Co-op, which serves Bedford-Stuyvesant, Clinton Hill, Fort Greene and surrounding areas. The PSFC loans have been a key support for the stability and growth of the member-run Co-op. While there has been little demand for loans by the Revolving Loan Committee of late, we expect interest in member-run coops to grow in the next period.

The Committee consists of two members, with Joe Holtz as the staff liaison. It continues to manage the loans to Greene Hill. The Committee will be asking the May 2025 General Meeting to re-elect one of its current members for a new three-year term and to elect Committee Co-Founder Joe Holtz to the Committee effective on June 28th, 2025, which is the day after he retires.

EQUITY, ACCESS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE REPORT

March 24, 2026



By Azi Khalili for the EACC

December 17, 2024

Founded in 2004, the Equity, Access and Community Committee (EACC) was established to uphold the Park Slope Food Coop's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. The EACC is a team of academics, researchers, attorneys, educators, artists and activists united by a shared passion for equity and social justice within the Coop.

Dedicated to creating an accessible and welcoming space, the EACC advocates for diversity, challenges discrimination and promotes equal participation. Working alongside Coop staff, managers and members, the committee investigates cases of discrimination and offers support to members who have experienced or observed discrimination based on racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, religious bias, etc.

We review reports, mediate conflicts and propose structural changes to address and

prevent discriminatory practices. Though the EACC does not impose penalties, our mission is to foster a fair and inclusive environment for all members.

In an effort to better understand and serve the Coop's community, the EACC is launching an anonymous demographic survey. Approved by the General Meeting, this survey will gather insights on the Coop's membership to inform outreach, recruitment and programming and to ensure the Coop reflects the diverse Brooklyn and Greater NYC communities it serves.

Key goals of the survey include understanding member demographics, identifying underrepresented groups and shaping policies that enhance inclusivity. By addressing potential barriers to participation, the EACC hopes to improve Coop accessibility and make data-informed decisions to meet members' needs. The EACC hopes to launch the survey in late December or early January. We will notify Coop members as soon as it's available.

To further support its mission, the EACC is also building a new website. This resource will provide members with information on the committee's role, how to report incidents and ways to engage in the Coop's efforts to build a more equitable community. Stay tuned for updates as the site develops!

JOIN THE AGENDA COMMITTEE

March 24, 2026



ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHEN SAVAGE

November 5, 2024

The Agenda Committee is seeking new members! The Committee's work is scheduling the agenda for the monthly General Meeting, and it meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. over Zoom.

Prospective applicants should be:

- Members in good standing for at least a year before the pandemic.
- Able and willing to regularly attend Agenda Committee meetings. These occur on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. ten times a year. There is no meeting in June and December. Currently, the Committee is meeting via Zoom.
- Willing to work in a collaborative committee environment.
- Interested in the ongoing business of the Coop.
- Willing to attend the General Meeting at least five times a year. The General Meeting meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Please send statements of interest to psfcac@gmail.com. The Committee will interview applicants and then select candidates for election at the General Meeting.

We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

COOP COMMITTEES LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

March 24, 2026



Join the Equity Access & Community Committee (the EACC) in doing important work for our Coop. Formerly known as the Diversity and Equality Committee, we are preparing a survey for members to answer anonymously. It will provide for the first time, an idea of the diversity of the Coop membership, to inform policies and practices going

forward.

If you have experience with SurveyMonkey or can help in other ways with sharing this information, you can assist. There are also other areas of EACC work for new members to collaborate on after the survey is completed and distributed. If interested, please contact us at EquityAccess@psfc.coop.

Calling all communications, graphic design, grant prospecting and translation pros! The Cooperative Economics Alliance of NYC (CEANYC) is a home for co-ops of all kinds in the five boroughs, including of course Park Slope Food Coop! We gather together for shared learning, advocacy and camaraderie, all with the intention of growing cooperation and a solidarity economy across NYC. Come volunteer with us! CEANYC is seeking talented and reliable PSFC members who want to receive work credit for providing support in any of the following areas:

1) Regular, ongoing communications services, particularly helping us create, edit and send our quarterly newsletters and member updates.

2) Graphic design services (to create event flyers and more).

3) Foundation grant prospecting research to help us fund our unique and critical work.

4) Spanish-English translators to help us uphold our commitment to language justice for the many CEANYC members who speak Spanish.

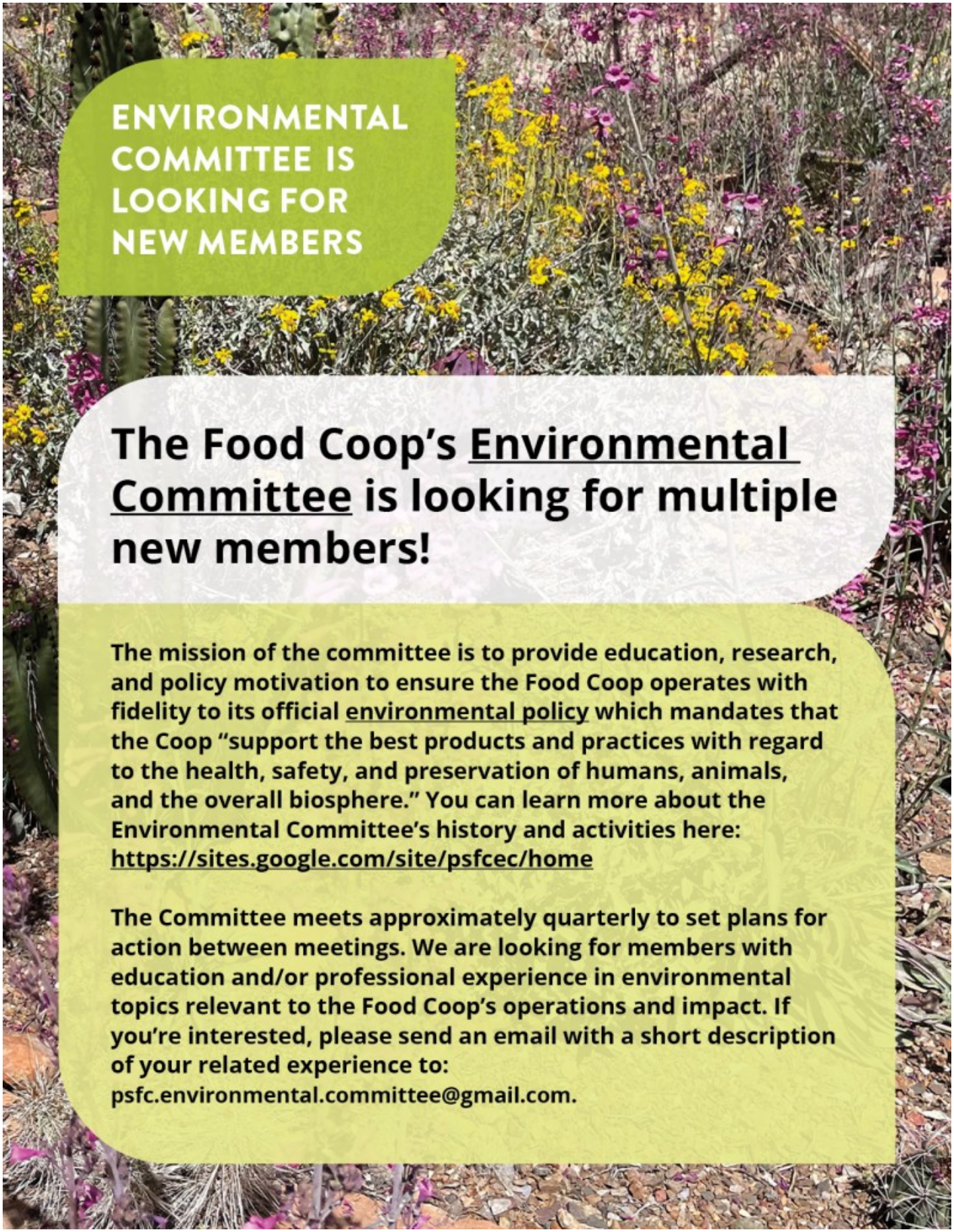
In each of these areas, we are seeking two freelancers who can each commit a minimum of one work shift (2.75 hours) per month. You can apply by sending an email to organize@gocoopnyc.org with: 1) a brief cover letter about your professional and co-op-related experience, as well as why you are motivated to support NYC’s growing solidarity economy; 2) your résumé; and 3) your general availability for a regular

monthly check-in. Please use the following subject line: “PSFC-CEANYC Work Shift Opportunity.” Learn more about CEANYC at: https://gocoopnyc.org/

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

March 24, 2026





ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

The Food Coop's Environmental Committee is looking for multiple new members!

The mission of the committee is to provide education, research, and policy motivation to ensure the Food Coop operates with fidelity to its official environmental policy which mandates that the Coop "support the best products and practices with regard to the health, safety, and preservation of humans, animals, and the overall biosphere." You can learn more about the Environmental Committee's history and activities here: https://sites.google.com/site/psfcec/home

The Committee meets approximately quarterly to set plans for action between meetings. We are looking for members with education and/or professional experience in environmental topics relevant to the Food Coop's operations and impact. If you're interested, please send an email with a short description of your related experience to: psfc.environmental.committee@gmail.com.

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