

Name: Andrew C Smith

#### A brief biography (150 words or less):

Originally from southern Ohio, I have lived in Oshkosh for 26 years.

I earned a Bachelor of Science from Ohio State University in 1976, with a major in Finance and was employed for 20 years for three companies in the passive electrical component manufacturing industry in a number of capacities: Product Manager, Buyer, Sales Manager and was the Vice President/General Manager.

In 1999, I enrolled at Fox Valley Technical College and earned an Associates Degree in Food Science and then worked at several local outlets - Heidel House, Pioneer Inn, Fusion Mediterranean Bistro, Oshkosh Country Club - for 20 years, primarily in a "fine dining" capacity. Most recently, I was employed at The Franciscan Court as a cook.

I am now retired and volunteer as an English Tutor for the Winnebago Literacy Council and as a sitting member of the Oshkosh Landmarks Commission.

### What would you bring/offer to the Oshkosh Food Co-op Board? (1-2 paragraphs)

My Finance degree gives me a foundation in accounting principles and management.

The experience in the manufacturing sector included personnel management, organizational behavior, strategic planning and customer relations.

The FVTC degree and subsequent work experience would suggest that I know my food materials!!

#### What is your dream for the Oshkosh Food Co-op? (1-2 paragraphs)

- 1. For the Co-op to become financially sustainable.
- 2. That the Co-0p (continue to) support our local, specialty producers.
- 3. It is my hope that the Co-op will be able to connect with a larger segment of our local population.

# Why do you think the Oshkosh Food Co-op is important to the greater Oshkosh Community? (1-2 paragraphs)

Generally, I believe that the Co-op offers a superior alternative to the large grocery chains by offering more healthy and wholesome product choices as well as food materials that are simply NOT available anywhere else in our city. I would like to see my fellow citizens eat better!

As I am sure you're aware, our downtown is considered a food oasis. The Co-op can present itself as a solution to this.

And as stated above, I believe that providing a retail outlet for our local farmers and producers is extremely important.

CONTINUED BELOW

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## Why cooperatives? (1-2 paragraphs)

The Co-op gives us local control over the culinary offerings to our local community. In addition, monies spent/earned remain in our community.

Please offer any additional thoughts you would like Oshkosh Food Co-op member-owners to know about you. (1-2 paragraphs)

As a board member, I will give my best effort to help the Co-op grow and prosper. Thank you for your consideration.

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