# **2023 Board Nominees**

## <u>George Aitken</u>



I am running for the board because I truly care about community, connection, and nutrition and I see the co-op being the location and conduit for bringing those things together. I have spent most of the last decade working as an engineer and a first responder, which has given me a unique outlook on how to approach problems. I have a very logical thought process as well as an ability to work through stressful situations to achieve a goal. My vision for the Coop is to grow the ability to provide high quality, local products and educate people as to why they should consider changing their purchasing habits to support a closer to home

consumption model, because I believe this will be key to reducing the impacts of a changing climate. I see a massive opportunity and potential impact for a community driven, local centric spot such as the co-op providing the connection people so desperately need and desire in today's age, but I also think cost is a big challenge as well as competing with the marketing of larger chain stores and big brands.

### **Kaylin Heatley**



I would like to run for the board to serve our community and become more involved. I have been passionate about food co-ops for a few years and am always interested in learning more and staying up to date with my favorite New England ones. With recent weather events and predictions for the future it is more important now than ever to support local farmers and producers. Providing healthy food and promoting healthy living and wellness is something I strongly support as a nurse, and I strive to set a good example for my patients. I would love to

see the co-op grow in size and selection. With the increasing population in Morrisville, that kind of growth seems promising with consistent community outreach. It is important to my family and I that the co-op continues to succeed. I recently volunteered for the corn roast and will continue to help with that and other events in years to come. It was wonderful seeing Morrisville come together that evening. I hope others will learn the importance and value our co-op brings to town. I will certainly continue to be an advocate for it.

## Jon Miles



Jon is focused on doing what he can to make Lamoille County a more livable place for his child, Eddie, starting with planting 100 fruit trees and shrubs as part of a regenerative plan on his little Morrisville homestead. Jon moved to Morrisville in 2021 from Beacon, NY where he founded and managed a bicycle shop, co-launched a cargo-bike powered compost system and helped bolster cycling infrastructure. While he spends much of his time on a cargo bike, he has been a high-performance driving instructor and racing coach

since 2008 and enjoys finding the limits of tire adhesion on a closed circuit. His passions include making electronic music and telling his child off-the-cuff tales, mostly involving kittens. You can usually find him at Humble Heart Homestead, building something or selling duck eggs at the farm stand.

#### **Bob Verrico**



I would like to contribute to further shaping a quality, healthy, environmentally focused, interesting, and financially stable food and related product resource for the communities in and around Morrisville. Having served on for-profit boards like EatingWell Media Group, Ursa Major Skin Care, and others, the value I have brought to those companies was unique relative to the other board members and what businesses require to grow and be profitable. I added a lot to the financial health, strategic positioning, growth, and marketing/sales approaches always resulting in very successful companies and/or liquidity

events. I am a 35+ year revenue development expert in the digital world...pre and post internet. I have built, resurrected, founded, served on boards, and advised many companies throughout my career all with successful track records. My involvement has always centered on strategic thinking, surfacing unique ideas, positioning, marketing, recruiting, selling, etc. Maybe I can bring some of that experience and resulting knowledge to MoCo.