



## 2023 Board Candidate

### Sean Thomas Phillips



My name is Sean Phillips and I have lived in Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor for the past 13 years. I have worked as a systems administrator for over 10 years and have gained expertise in various areas of technology, including system administration, data analysis, and project management. I am passionate about using technology to address real-world problems, and I believe that supporting local food systems is one way to make a positive impact on our community. That's why I am excited about the Ypsilanti Food Co-op and its mission to provide healthy, sustainable, and affordable food to its members. I am running for the board of Ypsilanti Food Co-op because I want

to use my skills and expertise to contribute to this important cause. I have experience in data analysis and project management, which I believe will be valuable for the board as we work to support local farmers and businesses and address food scarcity in our community. I am committed to working collaboratively with other board members and the co-op's members to ensure that the co-op continues to thrive and serve our community's needs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

1. What role do you think the Ypsilanti Food Co-op will play in Ypsilanti's future?

I believe the food co-op will play a vital role in providing access to locally sourced and sustainable goods within our community.

2. In what ways are you working to contribute to and improve the Ypsilanti community?

I have been contributing to the betterment of our community by volunteering my time and making monetary donations to various organizations.

3. If you can find healthy, organic food at another grocery store, why choose the Ypsilanti Food Co-op?

It is a community-owned and operational establishment that supports local farmers, prioritizes sustainability, and fosters a sense of belonging among its members.

4. What issue within the food system is the most important to you, and how would you address it?

Food insecurity – through programs that increase access to healthy food such as community gardens, food pantries, and nutrition education programs.

5. What is your past experience with the Ypsilanti Food Co-op and cooperatives in general (working, volunteering, shopping, etc.)? Include what you have done to improve and support the Ypsilanti Food Co-op.

I have volunteered at the co-op since November 2022 and have shopped at the co-op for several years prior.

6. What has the Ypsilanti Food Co-op done for you?

Offered quality goods that are ethically sourced.

7. What skills and strengths would you contribute to the Board?

I have a strong background in technology that I would be happy to share.