

# **Lesley Marcus Carlson (Incumbent)**

## **2023 Annual Election Candidate**

### **1. What role do you think the EACM will play in East Aurora's future?**

The Coop will continue to be a reliable source of healthy provisions, as it showed during the pandemic, its aftermath, and more recently, during the blizzard. I expect to see an increasing presence at community events and leadership in sustainable living, demonstrating East Aurora's historical values in simple living.

### **2. In what ways are you working to contribute to and improve the East Aurora community?**

My primary community engagement has been serving on the Coop board, and I also attend Town, Village, and School Board meetings to stay involved with community issues and have volunteered with Meals on Wheels.

### **3. If you can find healthy, organic food at another grocery store, why choose East Aurora Co-op Market?**

The difference to me is knowing that the Coop's emphasis is on healthy, organic food, and sustainably created products, which tells me they are well-researched and handled responsibly. In addition, since the Coop works to source locally as much as possible, I know my dollars are directly helping the local economy. Lastly, the staff are attentive and make shopping not a chore.

### **4. Which of the 10 cooperative values resonates with you most and why?**

The principle of Democratic Member Control reminds me that the Coop is truly a community business, as it is run and owned by community members. As a board member this motivates me to be prepared and responsible to the business and the shoppers and community members who started it, and it comforts me to know that everyone involved shares that sense of responsibility.