

FARMERS' MARKET COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2018

7:00PM

Village Hall - Room 101

Present: Laura Lencioni (Chair), Mary Chris Jaklevic, Julia Knier, Dominic Cianciola, Vendor Liaison; Frank Damiano, Church Liaison; Jeff Petertil, Market Manager; Colleen McNichols

Excused: James Robinson-Parran, CIC Liaison; Frank Pond, Jennifer Purrenhage, Staff Liaison; Mike Charley, Dina Ross

- 1) Call to Order at 7:04pm
- 2) Agenda Approval: Approved, first by Jaklevic, second by Knier
- 3) Public Comment: None
- 4) Approval of minutes - March 14, 2018: Approved, first by Cianciola, second by Jaklevic.
We did acknowledge one oversight in the minutes from the March meeting. In the March meeting, Julia Knier was voted as Chair of the Sustainability Committee. This was omitted from the March minutes. Therefore; is recorded in this month's minutes.
- 5) Church/Venue Report. (Jeff Petertil) Church Liaison:
 - a) The church committee has decided to return to using the "other" women's Restroom at Pilgrim Church, which affords more privacy (stall walls are higher). This was the market restroom used three years ago. The Church Committee received less negative comments about the facilities from women than they received in 2017, when this restroom was used for market days. We will offer signage to guide the vendors and staff to the proper restroom (which is located up a few stairs from the basement).
- 6) Vendor Liaison Report. (Frank Damian) Vendor Rep:
 - a) Damiano did not have anything to report, as it is off-season.
 - b) He will not be attending monthly commission meetings again until November, as he is a vendor at a Wednesday night market beginning in May. However; our summer Vendor Rep will be Jen Miller from Prairie Wind Farms. Damian and Miller will work in unison to report to the commission any concerns or comments from the other vendors throughout the season.
 - c) Damian said until he attended these meetings, he did not realize how much work the Commission accomplished. He thanked the Commission for all their time and energy.

- 7) Chair Report. (New Confirmed Chair Laura Lencioni):
 - a) Lencioni contacted the Classic Cinemas office (Contact was Ed) to ask that our Opening Day Market (May 19) be advertised on their marquee at the Lake Street Theatre the week prior.
 - b) Lencioni stated that the Citizen Involvement Commission may attend our monthly commission meeting. This is beneficial, as they may help bring in new commissioners.
 - c) In regard to the Opening Day Vendors Breakfast in the Church basement, Lencioni mentioned the logistics of the breakfast for the vendors. Pilgrim Church will provide the coffee, donuts and OJ and Colleen will bring the other items. Laura and Colleen will be present at the breakfast and welcome and address the vendors.

- 8) Market Manager Report (Colleen McNichols):
 - a) McNichols mentioned Sitka Salmon as a possible pop-up vendor or CSA information-only booth at Go Green Days (no selling). They are a fisherman's Co-op in Sitka Alaska. She will follow-up with a detailed email before next comm. meeting and it can be discussed at length at that time. She realizes if they sold sustainable Alaskan seafood, the Ordinance would have to be changed.
 - b) 1871 Dairy will not be returning (and may be going out of business). However; the much-missed and much-loved Nordic Creamery Dairy products will be sold by Brunkow Cheese as a co-op deal. Last year, many inquiries were made by shoppers about Nordic (especially their Summer Butter). They bring liquid milk later in the summer to replace 1871. We will use their space (1871) as a pop-up vendor space until we find the right full-time vendor who sells items we do not already have. Metropolitan Farms did not return calls or emails, when offered the booth space. Apparently, there was some history with them in the past years.
 - c) McNichols handed out Go Green Days layout and map listing the booths and vendors and activities and asked for feedback. She also included a market 2018 schedule for them to take home and read-up on special events and pop-ups and chef demos.
 - d) McNichols delivered the sad news that Farmer Karen Lee (Walt Skibbe's wife) had died suddenly and that she was a vendor for over twenty years. She agreed to bring a card for all to sign at the next commission meeting in May.
 - e) She also mentioned the cold Spring weather's effect on the farmers' crops and early summer late harvest. She is thankful we will have many jarred offerings and other seasonal items, to compensate for the lack of fresh items the first few weeks of the market.
 - f) She reminded everyone to stop by the VOP Earth Day Fest and say hello or to help to recruit new commissioners.

- 9) Go Green Days Committee Report. Mary Chris Jaklevic (Chair):
 - a) Jaklevic discussed the Cycle to Market Event for Opening Day. Two bike organizations will help plan the event with groups biking from the south and north and meeting up for final blocks to market. One org is going to staff the one-day free bike valet. We discussed asking Mike Charley (not present) about what property is available for the valet (either a few parking spots on Lake Street to be fenced off or the grass on the East side of the market on Elmwood Street). One bike org wanted to hand out water bottles, but we discouraged plastic bottles being used during Go Green Days and asked that a water canister be available for bikers to fill their own water containers or glass containers.
 - b) Everyone agreed with all that the Go Green Days participants should be food-cycle related (compost, growing, soil, native bee pollinators for our food, etc.). Promoting cycling and walking to the market plays a direct role in the 2018 Go Green Days. Organizations proposing bikeways in OP (so amateurs feel more comfortable) will be involved and doing outreach. McNichols offered some incentive or small gifts for those who show their bike helmets on Opening Day. McNichols asked for direct input on Go Green Days participants, as listed.
 - b) Lencioni offered to help with Seed planting children's activities both weeks and Purrenhage is looking to sign up volunteers to assist with both of the Go Green Markets and the many activities.
- 10) Sustainability Committee: (Julia Knier) Chair:
 - a) Knier met with the OPRF High School Environmental Club to try to recruit volunteer sustainability Ambassadors for our zero waste stations and to monitor/count the plastic bag use at one busy vendor. The group wanted a booth at Go Green Days, but Jaklevic suggested they wear shirts with their org's name on it and maybe a badge saying "Ask me about our club" while they volunteer at the market. We can help them promote their cause/org in other ways instead of giving them an actual booth. Julia will continue to communicate with them about signing up for the intern shifts and report back.
- 11) Old Business:
 - a) People have asked about Carnivore's butternut squash soup recipe from Stone Soup day last October. We are asking Chef to write it down for us to share. We hope Carnivore returns for Stone Soup on our closing day this season.
- 12) New Business: None
- 13) Adjourn at 8:05pm, Approved first by Cianciola and second by Knier