

FARMERS' MARKET COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2019
7:00PM
Village Hall – Room 101

Present: Laura Lencioni (Chair), Dominic Cianciolo, Myndi Devore, Rachel Hahs,; Jill Stewart, Liz Stolfa, Katie Weaver, Market Manager: Colleen McNichols, Staff Liaison: Mike Charley

Excused: Commission: Julia Knier, Jennifer Purrenhage, James-Robinson-Parran, Dina Ross; Vendor Liaison: Jim Vitalo; CIC Liaison: Frank Pond; Church Liaison: Jeff Petertil

- 1) Call to Order @ 7:03 pm
- 2) Agenda Approval: Approved, first by Cianciolo, second by Stewart
- 3) Public Comment: None
- 4) Approval of Minutes: September 11, 2019: Approved, first by Devore, second by Cianciolo
- 5) Church Liaison Report (Jeff Petertil): No report
- 6) Vendor Liaison Report (Jim Vitalo): No report
- 7) Chair Report (Laura Lencioni): Lencioni communicated that she will be organizing a packet of documents that should be shared with new commissioners. Charley recommended that Lencioni look at what is already on the Village website and then provide feedback to staff. Staff will then work to make the documents available. Lencioni communicated that her first term at Farmers' Market Chair is ending soon and that she is interested in remaining as Chair. If there were any other members that would be interested, she is open to someone else being chair. The commissioners attending the meeting were in support of Lencioni remaining the chair.

Lencioni read Julia Knier's email from Tuesday October 8. In summary the email provided Knier's recommendations on how to improve how different types of wastes were sorted and managed near the church's donut sales area. McNichols communicated that she had printed signs that she will share with the church to post at the donut sales area to help customers understand how to dispose of certain types of wastes. Devore recommended adding actual cups, lids and actual items to the sign to better communicate to the customers.

- 8) Farmers' Market Liaison Report (Mike Charley): No report
- 9) Farmers' Market Manager Report (Colleen McNichols)
 - a) Customer Survey: McNichols reviewed the customer survey with the commission and commission provided feedback to McNichols. McNichols will finalize the survey based on the feedback. McNichols communicated that

business cards will be handed out to customers on the last two market dates to encourage customers to take the survey online.

10)Committee/Project Reports: Special Event Dates, Commissioner Chair Committee Assignments/Responsibilities

- a) Stone Soup: McNichols asked about volunteers. Cianciolo communicated that the set-up should not be too difficult since the Farmers' Market has equipment. McNichols to determine the set-up time and event times based on volunteers and Carnivore's schedule.
- b) Stewart shared that there was a recent Wednesday Journal front page story titled "Drawn Together by Music" from September 25.
- c) Stewart communicated that she is working on a monthly blog that focuses on Prairie Winds family farm. Stewart passed out a sign-up sheet for commissioners to sign up for participating in writing future monthly blogs. Stewart asked if the Village can link to the blog from the Village webpage. McNichols can follow-up with Communications staff on this.
- d) Hahs asked about whether available vendor CSA information will be posted on the Village website. McNichols communicated that she is working on this list and will work with the Village Communications Department to post this list.

11)Old Business: None

12)New Business

- a) Cianciolo asked McNichols if she was aware of a new business "The Daily Bagel" opening up on Chicago Ave. Cianciolo communicated that the Daily Bagel currently sells baked products at the River Forest Farmers' Market. McNichols communicated that she was not aware of this business. She also shared that there are already several vendors selling baked goods and there is also the church weekly donut sales, so her feeling that adding more baked goods this year is not an option. Charley recommended that staff review vendors' sales items including baked goods in January of 2020 and then make a determination as to market need for new vendors.
- b) Hahs inquired about whether mesh bags are for sale at the farmers' market. McNichols communicated that the market did sell mesh bags this year and sold out. McNichols will look to purchase more mesh bags for the 2020 market.

13)Adjourn at 7:47 pm, first by Cianciolo , second by Hahs

Next Meeting Wednesday, November 13, 2019 7-9 pm, Room 101, Village Hall