



# City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
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## Meeting Minutes - Final Public Market Advisory Commission

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Tuesday, March 12, 2013

5:30 PM 301 E. Huron St., First Floor North Conference Room

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### Work Session

#### A CALL TO ORDER

Amy Kuras, Parks Planner; Jeff Straw, Deputy Manager of Parks and Recreation; Sarah DeWitt, Market Manager were also present.

Present: 5 - Lindsay-Jean Hard, David Santacroce, Aimee Germain, Jillian Lada, and Karlene Goetz

#### B Overview of Market Fund Balance

Market Manager DeWitt gave a very brief overview of the market's fund balance. More discussion of the budget and fund balance will take place during the budget review to happen in April. The market currently keeps a healthy fund balance for future market improvements, necessary upgrades and repairs. The commission advises park staff on ways to utilize fund balance money.

#### C Review of Past Market Improvement Plans, Discussion of Future Improvements

Notes from 3.12.13 PMAC Work Session

Questions:

- What is the rule of thumb for keeping a certain fund balance level/amount?
- What is a "market rate" for market stalls? Is AAFM charging enough for stalls? When should fees be raised?
- What grant funding/matching funds are available for this kind of project?
- What is the degradation level of the sand lot with current practice of placing snow in lot during winter?
- One project to solve winter and space issue or 2 projects to deal with these separately?

Ideas

- Winter stall restrictions (only allowed to take 1 stall, for instance)
- A heavy plastic secured to the ground with anchors for winter
- A pole barn concept with garage doors to come open for summer
- Seeing improvement projects as an investment for the future of the market
- Make a new structure available as rentable community space
- Using space between Kerrytown shops and the east side of the long aisle for winter space
- Temporary street closures for Detroit Street for customer seating/music/art on market days
- Consideration of whether building diminishes available space for winter

Follow Up Items

- Amy Kuras & Sarah DeWitt to assess safety issues related to uneven/decaying concrete in the market

- Sarah DeWitt to send Open Space Parks Plan link to PMAC
- Jeff Straw to look into space at community high and/or street closure procedures for Detroit Street
- Sarah DeWitt to make report of market spaced used throughout the year & number of vendors
- Market staff/volunteers to make strong effort to show people where to park
- Sarah DeWitt to share signage audit with PMAC

**D**      **Discussion of Art Project Proposal**

At this time the commission does not view the Farmers Market Art Project proposed by community member Linda Tenza (at the January 17, 2013 PMAC Meeting) as a priority project for the market. However the commission does support the idea of art as a way to enliven the physical space of the market and would welcome smaller scale, temporary art projects in the market.

**E**      **ADJOURNMENT**