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Approved March 20 2008

CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PUBLIC MARKET ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES February 21, 2008

The regular meeting of the Public Market Advisory Commission was held on Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located in City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by P. Pollack.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: (4) G. Service, S. Brines, K. King, P. Pollack

Members Absent: (1) D. Black

Staff Present: (2) J. Black, M. Notarianni

Guests: (1) Gary Cooper, Cooper Design

3. Special Presentations

4. Public Commentary – Agenda Items only (3 minutes per speaker)

5. Approval of Agenda

P.Pollack requested that agenda be adjusted so that item number 5 – Agenda Approval occurs before items number 4 – Public Commentary. This way, the public will be able to speak to items we may have added to the agenda. P. Pollack also requested to add Phase 1 Market improvements update to item 7. Commission Business under a. Old Business as number 2.

The agenda was approved as changed.

6. Approval of Minutes

January 17 2008 minutes moved by S. Brines, seconded by G. Service. Approved unanimously.

7. Commission Business

- a. Old Business
- (1) Market Mission Statement

J.Black – before you start with the Mission Statement discussion, can we allow Gary Cooper to discuss the Phase 1 and 2 market improvements?

P.Pollack – Sure go ahead. The Commission has received emails from one vendor and one citizen regarding Phase 1 improvements for the market. The commission will not be dealing with this level of detail and will however look at the general principle topics and issues. Issues that have been raised include the electrical service adequacy as a system now and in the future and the Public Address system.

J.Black – Gary Cooper with Cooper Design is here today to discuss the Phase 1 and 2 improvements we have scheduled for the market as well as address the emails we have received. The commission has a work session scheduled for March 6 2008 and I have asked all of you to check your calendars for a day/time to hold a vendor/public meeting at Cobblestone Farm. Let's try to set that day tonight. Gary is set to respond to the emails received about the electrical and public address system.

Scheduled

(2) Phase 1 and 2 Improvements

Gary Cooper – I have brought drawings and specs if you would like to review them. In the fall of 2007, we began the process for improvements at the market space. We developed various scenarios based on vendor, public and staff input received during the master plan process. After further review, the project was found to be significantly under funded. City staff looked for alternate funding sources and ultimately it was decided that a three-phased approach to spread out the costs would be best. The City's commitment to this project was reinforced and a schedule was developed with Phase 1 starting in the spring of 2008. Phase 1 consists of improvements to the existing canopy; Phase 2 involves removing the middle canopy, building new center canopy structure, site works, and addressing storm water management. Phase 2 involves constructing the new pavilion and other minor work.

Phase 1 in detail involves pressure washing the existing canopy, prep work associated with painting and lighting upgrades. There is a need for more lighting specifically at the vendor table level and fluorescent lighting is the most efficient easily available type. LED lighting is no more efficient than what we are proposing. The fixture we propose is being installed in parking decks and will double the candle foot at the table level. Gutter repair will also be done at this time.

Improvement of the power supply and number of duplex receptacles available within the market will be addressed in Phase 2. The current electrical system is in bad condition. Phase 2 will address the electrical system and will provide an opportunity to increase the number of receptacles at market stalls. We will also improve the power supply and control of lighting and power by staff.

Included in Phase 2 will be storm water management. It may be a rain capture system where water is held and reused for watering, etc.

J.Black – please speak about the Public Address system.

G Cooper – The PA system was added as a deduct alternate within the bid. It was developed principally for announcements on market days to the vendors and public. It is designed to have play music if needed however we were told specifically by staff that music on market days is not wanted. I saw the emails regarding using 240 volt ballast instead of the 120 volt ballast. There is no advantage to using the 240 over the 120. The lights we are recommending are not available in a 240 volt ballast. The market needs a cold weather (-20 degrees) ballast due to the outdoor weather conditions.

S.Brines – regarding the power supply in Phase 1; is there a loss, gain or do we remain as status quo?

G.Cooper – There is technically a loss in Phase 1 of 2 or 3 receptacles. We are installing twice the amount of lights which use less power than what we currently have. The 2 or 3 removed receptacles will be added back, plus more, in Phase 2.

J.Black – I have indicated to Gary where we can afford to temporarily loose receptacles for the spring/summer seasons. With Phase 2 being in the late fall/winter, we should not have much of an issue.

S.Brines – What about water?

G.Cooper – Not addressing this until Phase 2. There may be a combination of potable and captured rain water opportunities.

S.Brines – Is funding for Phase 1 and 2 secure?

J.Black - Yes, we still need funding for Phase 3.

G.Cooper – The bids came in surprisingly low for Phase 1. Our estimate was \$190,000 and the low bid was \$95,000 which may mean that additional monies are available for later phases.

K.King – Not sure if we need water at every stall.

G. Cooper – Water may not be available at every stall – mapped out with Jessica where water is needed. It may be along one side of the market or at every other stall.

K.King – A few well place hydrants near to the ground for practicality purposes should serve well.

P.Pollack – If you had your druthers, would you put all electrical wiring underground and wait until Phase 2?

G.Cooper – No, wiring within the canopy is ok. It is easily accessible and protected. There is a voltage drop due to the length of the run however with Phase 2, we may be able to run underground to the new canopy. In Phase 1 and with this project, underground wiring is not preferred.

P.Pollack – Any other questions?

G.Cooper – I will leave the drawings and specifications here for you to review.

P.Pollack – The nature of sequencing and how the events have taken place to lead us to this point may have alluded to some lack of transparency. I think that the upcoming public and vendor meeting at Cobblestone will serve as an opportunity to address concerns and questions about this project. The process will become more transparent. It is not the role of the commission to be involved with the details but to look at the bigger picture and stay involved. Let's introduce Molly, the new market manager.

J.Black – Since I accepted my new position, Gayle LaVictoire has been managing the market while we looked nationwide for a new market manager. Molly Notarianni is our new market manager. She is originally from this area however has been living in Portland, OR and working as a site manager for the Portland Farmers Market Assoc.

M.Notarianni – Thanks. I am honored to be here and excited about the future of the market.

P.Pollack and all – Welcome.

(1) Market Mission Statement

P.Pollack – Ken King started this document and I have provided you all with a version 2 for discussion and deliberation this evening. We should also make this document available for the public and the vendors at the meeting at Cobblestone. As a commission we will discuss this more at our work session.

S.Brines – I like the version 2 and think we should discuss this at our work session.

G.Service – I like the bullet points; what do you think Molly?

M.Notarianni – I think it is comprehensive and touches on many points. Let's discuss it in detail at the work session.

K.King – We should also start working on a commission mission statement.

P.Pollack – A statement by the commission for the public would be a nice idea. Let's discuss both at the work session.

J.Black – Only thing that might be missing is reference to artisans at the market. May want to add additional language to address the artisan component.

P.Pollack – The primary focus of the market is food and the interactions that take place. It is important to give credit to the artisans with out taking about the primary focus of food. Possibly add language to bullet number 5 or create additional bullet for the relationship between the artisans and the farmers market.

K.King – There are many farmers who are artisans as well and this can be a difficult thing to define.

S.Brines – I think overall this is a good draft. Let's discuss at the work session and possibly have something to adopt at the March 2008 meeting.

b. New Business

(1) Potential work program and work schedule for 2008

P.Pollack – Included in our January 2008 packet was the work program and schedule for review of the market policies. The vendor/public meeting will be an opportunity to start the dialogue. The commission

may want to give questions to the vendors/public regarding what is working, what's not, seniority, etc. If we issue a set of questions to all, this should assist use in our work program.

K.King – I need assistance with the Growers Association and my contact with them. They are would like to hear from me. They are a long standing informal group with very strong opinions made up of strong opinions. I am not sure what their role is within the process.

J.Black – There are too loosely organized groups at the market – the Grower's Association and the Daily Grower's Association. I feel that they should all be working together to set up open lines of communication between staff, vendors and the public. Let's all look at changing past practices for our future.

S.Brines – I agree with Jessica and Peter. Let's develop a few questions at the work session to share at the public meeting at Cobblestone. At the public meeting, the focus should be on the market phase 1 and 2 improvements and then the questions.

P.Pollack – The intent is for the comments to come from the community of interest to assist with the process.

K.King - For the upcoming Growers Association meeting, Shannon, could you join me?

S.Brines – Depending on the date, yes I can go.

(2) Commission Mission Statement

P.Pollack – Let's not talk about this today but begin thinking about it. The by-laws are cut and dry – what does the commission want to be doing? We have a relationship with the DDA, PAC, all vendors and the public. Think about this and let's discuss more at the work session.

J.Black – Take a look at Chapter 8 and the bulleted items as a reference for the mission statement.

P.Pollack – There should be an emphasis on education and outreach how we can better use the Wednesday and Saturday market for various activities.

G.Service – There is a potential for many great opportunities that combine food and the environment.

J.Black - Molly will be great at this!

8. Reports and Communications

a. Market Manager

J.Black – I apologize for not having a written report for you tonight. I would like to highlight our hiring of Molly Notarianni as the new market manager. I met with the Kerrytown District Association today and they are working on board development as well as planning events for the summer and entire year. The solar project and market renovations are moving forward.

P.Pollack – At one point, Jeff Dehring was looking at establishing an advisory committee for market renovations. Is there going to be a small advisory committee?

J.Black – I will look into this and let you know.

b. Related Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces

P.Pollack – This item was added to the agenda as a place for items from PAC, Council, DDA ,etc that relate to the market and the commission could be added.

c. Items from Commissioners

P.Pollack – This agenda item will be where commissioners can bring up topics for discussion, add future agenda items, etc.

S. Brines – Just a reminder about the Homegrown Festival on Saturday Sept. 13th 2008. This festival is a celebration of local food. Chefs will demonstrate recipes and there will be an educational component. The festival will take place on the green space at Community High and possibly along Detroit Street if needed.

K.King – Ideally this event could take place in the sandlot at the market. This is the type of event we could have at the market.

S. Brines – We would like to encourage this type of events at the market. I would like to work with Molly to integrate the market activities with special events.

J.Black – If you have any additional items you would like added to the packet or on the agenda, make sure to send them to Molly and I.

d. Transmittals/communications received

P.Pollack – We received emails from Glenn Thompson and Denise Brock.

10. Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:17pm.