



City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Meeting Minutes Public Market Advisory Commission

Thursday, August 21, 2014

5:30 PM

301 E. Huron St., 2nd Fl. Council Chambers

A CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

B ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - David Santacroce, Aimee Germain, Jillian Lada, Karlene Goetz, and Peter Woolf

C APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D FIRST PUBLIC COMMENTARY (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY) - (3 Minutes per Speaker)

Market vendor Scott Robertello spoke regarding the letter on the agenda from Erie Orchards. While supportive of the producer only rule for the market, Mr. Robertello felt that an exception in the case of extreme crop loss (such as the 2014 peaches) could improve customer traffic and sales to the market, particularly on Wednesdays. On the matter of the Detroit Street Closure study, Mr. Robertello said in his conversations with market shoppers, customers were not supportive of the street closure. Concerns for disabled and elderly customers walked on the brick pavers were noted.

E APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

E-1 14-1294 PMAC Meeting Minutes 6.26.14

Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council due back on 10/6/2014

F PRESENTATIONS

G REGULAR BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEMS)

G-1 Market Infrastructure Project Update

Market Manager Sarah DeWitt updated the commission on the status of infrastructure projects for the market. Architectural firms will be retained for park projects and the intent will be to have these firms provide plans and designs for preliminary building and winterization efforts at the market. Once these firms have been chosen, Market Manager DeWitt will bring additional updates back to the commission.

G-2 14-1328 Market Parking Strategy & Next Steps 8.21.14

Received and Filed. Discussion of Community High School grass and or parking lot space for additional market use will be followed up by a discussion with the DDA and market staff. Market Manager DeWitt will follow up on filling pot holes in market lot.

G-3 14-1296 Letter from Erie Orchards regarding peaches

Received and Filed. Market Manager DeWitt expressed concern for the request to make exceptions to the producers-only rule as it would make it difficult to enforce the rule at large. Market Manager also expressed an opportunity to better inform customers regarding crop loss when it occurs and how else to support market vendors.

Commissioner Germain stated that as a customer she understands why she can't get certain things at the market and she likes the producers-only status of the market as it is.

Commissioner Woolf seconded the view to keep the producers-only rule as is.

Commissioner Lada expressed that as a vendor who grows all of her product for sale at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market, any alterations to the producers only rule would undermine her work. She recommended looking into getting some peach vendors from the west side of the state in future years.

Commission Goetz said as is, the rule does not allow for these exemptions. She acknowledged the hard nature of the crop loss but she likes having very specific market rules that are enforced.

H NEW BUSINESS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Market Manager DeWitt informed the commission that market staff is looking into other ways to incorporate food trucks and carts into the day and evening markets going forward.

I REPORTS

I-1 14-1295 August 2014 Market Manager Report

Received and Filed

J SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT (NOT LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS)

L ADJOURNMENT