

1 **Public Market Advisory Commission Minutes**

2 Tuesday, May 3, 2011

3  
4 **Meeting Agenda**

5 1. Call to Order

6 2. Roll Call

7  
8 Members Present: (3) S. Brines, D. Barkman, A. Germain

9 Members Absent: (1) L-J. Hard

10 Staff Present: (1) M. Notarianni

11 Guests: (0)

12  
13 3. Approval of Agenda

14 4. Special Presentations

15  
16 M. Notarianni: I'd like to add a quick Special Presentation, and introduce our newest  
17 Commissioner, Aimee Germaine.

18  
19 A. Germain: I work for the University of Michigan, and am a Kerrytown resident as well as a  
20 longtime Farmers Market shopper. I wanted to be a good citizen and when I heard there were  
21 openings on the Commission, decided to apply.

22  
23 5. Public Commentary – Agenda items only (3 minutes per speaker)

24 6. Approval of Minutes

25 a. Meeting of April 5, 2011

26 7. Commission Business

27 a. Old Business

28 (1) Wednesday Evening Pilot Market

29  
30 M. Notarianni: While an official start date has not yet been set, we are hoping for the first  
31 Wednesday in June.

32  
33 S. Brines: As a recap for our viewing audience, there is a new market-a Pilot Market-that is  
34 separate from the existing Wednesday and Saturday markets that is being proposed.

35  
36 M. Notarianni: The hours will be from 4:30-8:30, and we are anticipating a shorter season, June-  
37 September. Existing vendors are invited to apply as are new vendors; existing vendors could  
38 potentially stay for the whole day if they are interested. This is just an opportunity to try  
39 something different and create additional opportunities for vendors and shoppers. Information is  
40 available on the market website for interested vendors.

41  
42 S. Brines: What categories of vendors are permitted to apply?

43  
44 M. Notarianni: Any producers, including food carts, but not artisans at this point in time.  
45

46 I am also considering including music and other special educational and entertainment-focused  
47 events at the market.

48  
49 S. Brines: I think we should continue to recruit vendors, as we haven't received many  
50 applications yet. Perhaps we can have a "soft" launch in June, and a larger, "party" launch in  
51 July.

52  
53 b. New Business  
54 (1) New Vendor Discussion  
55

56 M. Notarianni: I received the following applications in the last month: organic plant nutrients,  
57 jewelry, baked goods, vegetables, hand-screenprinted items, vegetables, barbecue sauce,  
58 chocolate covered potato chips, and turkey and vegetable patties.

59  
60 (2) Market Inspections  
61

62 M. Notarianni: In recent years we've discussed conducting inspections at market-as a way to  
63 connect what is at the farm to what is at the market-and this spring we are hoping to start such  
64 inspections. This will likely be in the form of a quick inventory after the vendor has set up in the  
65 morning hours; perhaps not each market day but a few mornings each month.

66  
67 S. Brines: I think that would be reasonable, as long as we can ensure the cost fits within the  
68 amount budgeted to the inspector.

69  
70 D. Barkman: I think if it is done less formally, by reviewing several vendors' stalls against their  
71 applications, it would work the best.

72  
73 S. Brines: It would be nice if the inspector could join us at a meeting for an update! I think we  
74 need to continue to make sure the information he is collecting is actually useful in helping him  
75 do his job.

76  
77 8. Reports and Communications  
78 a. Market Manager  
79

80 M. Notarianni: Since the last meeting, the following vendors have been inspected: Blandowski,  
81 Wagner, Neuvirth, Donahee, Snider, Ward. Planning for the Wednesday Evening Pilot Market  
82 continues. Vendor applications have been distributed, and we have already received several.  
83 Double Up Food Bucks will begin in June, and run through October. Representatives from the  
84 Washtenaw County Health Department will be offering SNAP education at the market most  
85 Wednesdays, throughout the busy season. New vendors who've recently joined the market  
86 include Full Circle Farm, who bring organic lamb and eggs, and Bay Port Fish, with Great Lake-  
87 caught fish and smoked fish. Finally, Oren Hesterman, of the Fair Food Network, will be  
88 hosting a signing of his book at the market one Saturday this summer.

89  
90 b. Related Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces  
91 c. Items from Commissioners

92  
93  
94  
95  
96  
97  
98  
99  
100  
101  
102  
103  
104  
105  
106  
107

S. Brines: As a reminder, I am acting as a temporary Chair of this Commission. Perhaps in the upcoming meetings we can re-vote on the Commissioners.

D. Barkman: There is a telephone cable that is hanging really low in the entrance to the market that needs to be fixed, so a vendor doesn't catch it on the roof of their truck.

d. Transmittals/communications received

9. Public Commentary – General (3 minutes per speaker)

10. Adjournment

***Note: In response to pending City Hall/Courts and Police construction, Market Commission meetings have been relocated to the 4th floor Board Room of the Ann Arbor District Library, and will occur on the first Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 pm.***