

# **City of Ann Arbor**

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



## **Meeting Minutes - Draft**

**Thursday, August 21, 2025**

**5:30 PM**

**This meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99. Online at [a2gov.org/watchCTN](http://a2gov.org/watchCTN). To speak at public comment call Toll Free: 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099 Enter Meeting ID: 993 9792 7065**

## **Public Market Advisory Commission**

**A CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Young called the meeting to order at 5:03pm

**B ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 4 - Lisa Young, Jeff Nemeth, James Booge IV, and Emma Hardy

**C APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Hardy, seconded by Nemeth, that the Agenda be Approved as presented. On a voice vote, Chair Young declared the motion carried.

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

No public commentary provided

**E APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

A motion was made by Nemeth, seconded by Booge IV, that the August Meeting Minutes be Approved as presented. On a voice vote, Chair Young] declared the motion carried.

**G REGULAR BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEMS)**

**I. General Updates**

- a. Vendor Stall Move-Up
- b. Staffing
- c. Marketing, Outreach, & Events
- d. Grants & Research
- e. Recruiting new PMAC members
- f. Facility/Repairs Updates
- g. Neighboring Construction Updates

**a. Vendor Stall Move-Up**

September 20 after market is when move-up will be happening. Market Manager Stauffer said she chose the date because of the football schedule, not wanting people to get stuck in traffic. She said folks will have the opportunity to take a look at the stalls in

advance like the rules call for. She mentioned the artisan at the top of the daily list will be moving into the annual list, and five additional producer vendors. Chair Young said she assumed we will be letting folks know directly who is gaining their seniority & Stauffer said yes.

**b. Staffing**

Market Manager Stauffer stated that Assistant Market Manager II/Outreach Coordinator Layla left at the end of July and that market staff do have a plan moving forward. In particular, Assistant Market Manager Lunia will be promoted to the new position of Assistant Market Manager III, and full time, which better aligns with her interests in record-keeping and vendor compliance, and less with the market aspect included in the other job. Stauffer also mentioned that the Assistant Market Manager II/Outreach Coordinator will become part time now, maxed out at 29 hours per week. Stauffer also mentioned that Remy Long has helped created another part time position that would be able to fill in as needed with events, maintenance, etc., but their main focus would be on market inspections.

Chair Young asked whether the two months off changes and Stauffer said no, which is why the plan is to stagger the hirings of the two part-time positions, to ensure better market coverage all year.

**c. Marketing, Outreach, & Events**

Market Manager Stauffer said the Food Truck Rallies for August was last night, with 19 food businesses participating. She said that 1 vendor had difficulties with their generator so had to leave, while another did not show. It was well attended and had OK weather, although it was a bit cloudy and seemed to be threatening rain. Stauffer mentioned that community member Karen Wanza made a low sugar peach jam + canning demonstration for the August cooking demo at Wednesday Market. She said that there was a bit of a snafu with the induction cooktop we borrowed from OSI, since they provided the incorrect pot to cook on, so we had to use a single electric burner for the demo, which made it take longer than anticipated. She mentioned that she purchased a new infrared double burner to increase future cooking capacity. Stauffer said the last official cooking demo is in September, with Alex from Ukrainian Homemade Food, although Baan Phad Thai had inquired about maybe doing a cooking demo in October. Stauffer also said that MIFMA had informed us more money had been found in the grant so that could be covered if market had the capacity to do it. Stauffer discussed how market is mostly booked up through the

rest of the season with prepared food, live music, & community groups on Wednesdays. She also said that the A2SO brass quintet will be coming to perform at market next Wednesday then the string quartet would play on a Saturday in September. She mentioned that they would do their free ticket giveaway again for people using their food assistance at market, for the 3rd year in a row. The tickets distribution will begin next Wednesday to coincide with the concert.

Stauffer also mentioned that the MSU USDA FMPP project will pivot due to low interest in the mailers then sent, to a focus on getting student attention with targeting fliers in dining & residence halls, the idea being to get more students to market with the incentive of \$10 in tokens if they fill out the survey. Chair Young mentioned she was available to help and that her contact info could be shared with project lead Dr. Phil Warsaw.

#### **d. Grants & Research**

FMPP USDA pivot discussed in this section as well since it is both marketing and research.

Market Manager Stauffer also said that soon the market would be posting info on social media primarily for the shared fundraising initiative with MIFMA. She reiterated that 50% of the funds would go to MIFMA, mentioning how helpfully they have been with navigating recent food access challenges, specifically associated with the WIC & Senior Project Fresh programs, but other advocacy as well, and 50% would go to the market.

Market Manager Stauffer also said that market's 2025 grant, 2024 closeout, and funding with Fair Food Network officially ready for the DUFBA grant to be issued for this year.

#### **e. Recruiting new PMAC members**

Chair Young said that she had reached out to the mayor again about the 2 applicants that had submitted applications, especially in advance of the market visioning process. She said she wants to encourage folks to apply since there are 3 openings, especially since Nemeth & Young term limits are coming up in May 2026.

#### **f. Facility/Repairs Updates**

Market Manager Stauffer talked about how the market office demolition project is 99.5% complete, and that market staff are just waiting for the final portion of pavement/concrete to be put down to make that area a bit more accessible and functional, since staff is already using it for stalls. She mentioned that she measured out the area and that currently 5-6 stalls can fit there while also maintaining the walkways. She also mentioned that Park

Operations has been able to fix quick, urgent things like water pipes being struck by vehicles, but larger projects are still mostly on hold until the demolition project is fully complete and the community engagement begins this fall.

Stauffer mentioned that Parks Planner Fercho is currently the only planner working on all the parks projects so is beyond short-staffed, but he has been pushing to get the community engagement. Young encouraged people to sign up on the engage a2 website to get involved in the planning process.

**g. Neighboring Construction Updates**

Market manager Stauffer mentioned MAVD parking headaches and how she had to talk to somewhat combative people two weeks ago that were parked in vendors load-in areas on a Saturday morning. She said she reached out to MAVD who send a notice to all the subcontractors to not block the access for vendors before & after market days. She is hopeful that that will sort out the issues. Chair Young said she is pleasantly surprised to see that there were parking spaces on Detroit street on Wednesday. MAVD is also supposed to help with wayfinding as part of their agreement on the project, so she asked other commissioners to let us know if wayfinding is a problem.

**H NEW BUSINESS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)**

Commissioner Hardy said that it is exciting that the position opening up may be an inspector. She said that the producer only subcommittee are working on simplifying the categories. She wanted to know if they could help to create the job posting for the inspector. Hardy & Market Manager Stauffer spoke about various aspects of the producer only rules & questions, citing examples and raising questions and potentially problematic aspects, like requiring someone to be an employee & not a contractor.

Chair Young said she wants to have next in person meeting in November (11/20/25)

**J SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT (NOT LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS)**

Vendor Debbie Marx said wants to thank everyone for being a part of the market & thanked Commissioner Hardy for her work on this project. She wishes there was a team helping with it. She thanked Market Manager Stauffer for looking out for them because of all the parking & contractors & sometimes they forget how we are an asset to the market & the market is used as advertising. She said

they need to let us conduct our business.

**L      ADJOURNMENT**

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