

# City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
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## Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, December 19, 2024

5:30 PM

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## Public Market Advisory Commission

**A CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Woolf called the meeting to order at 5:32pm**

**B ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 3 - Peter Woolf, Lisa Young, and James Booge IV

**Absent:** 2 - Jeff Nemeth, and Emma Hardy

**C APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Young, seconded by Booge IV, that the Agenda be Approved with changes, to add a discussion of the Mobility Partners proposal. On a voice vote, Chair Woolf 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 Booge IV, seconded by Young, that the Minutes from the previous Meeting be Approved as presented. On a voice vote, Chair Woolf declared the motion carried.**

**G REGULAR BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEMS)**

**I. General Updates**

**a. Events**

**b. Vendor Updates**

**c. Staff Trainings**

**d. Facility/Repairs**

**e. 330 Detroit & 121 Catherine Construction Updates**

**f. Other Construction Project Updates**

**I. General Updates**

**a. Events**

**Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that market events have concluded until spring, outside of an occasional food truck on market days. She said she heard from vendors and other Parks**

staff that Kindlefest was great this year. She said we are putting together the events schedule for this year and are in the process of deciding what we can do with the cooking demos. She mentioned that we want to have a canning and food preservation focus and will be applying for the MIFMA Food Safety grant again to fund it. Stauffer said market will also have an AADL 'puppet petting zoo' at Wednesday market next season. Vice Chair Young said she loves the idea of cooking demo being part of food preservation and canning as part of it. Chair Peter added to the enthusiasm by mentioning food preservation methods like freezing.

#### **b. Vendor Updates**

Market Manager Stauffer said that the online application will be now available! She discussed the pros and cons and said that market will still have paper copies available for those that request them. She said that this is a huge improvement in terms of efficiency on both ends of the process and should make it easier for market staff as well as most vendors.

Stauffer also spoke about CivicRec & improving our capacity for invoicing vendors & having them be able to pay online. Commissioner Booge thought that was Great news. Market Manager Stauffer also spoke about the sign in process change.

Stauffer mentioned that there was a new pasta vendor who would be joining. Commissioner Booge asked about the new process for the online application and whether or not we thought we would have a large increase in application volume. Market Manager Stauffer said that prospective vendors will still have to go to our website through the same process so it should not be too much more, plus the process for application evaluation is also expedited by this new format.

#### **c. Staff Trainings**

Market Manager Stauffer said that Assistant Manager Oriol will be doing the MIFMA Market Manager Certification Training in January up in Alpena, with virtual sessions to follow. Stauffer also discussed the MIFMA Year End Food Access meetings and the Senior Project Fresh listening sessions earlier this week. She mentioned her worries about adding farmers to the program and difficulties for seniors to sign up online. Vice Chair Young- asked Assistant Market Manager Bradshaw about her experience with the food access meeting. Bradshaw spoke about the drawbacks of the

programs.

**d. Facility/Repairs**

Market Manager Stauffer reported that the problematic electrical outlets were fixed as was the water drip inside the utility closet. She said that Park Operations is working on taking out the dead and dying Silver Maple tree and Serviceberry tree out next to the old office building. Stauffer explained how the tree removal came about and is happening in the next few days before the end of the year.

**e./f. 330 Detroit & 121 Catherine Construction Updates & Other Construction Project Updates**

Market Manager Stauffer spoke about the 330 Detroit and 121 Catherine construction projects and what we know. She mentioned that we now have numbers we can call if the road is being blocked, and that the market is now designated a 'sensitive area' by the Planning Department so that we can be more considered for construction impacts.

**II. Market Office Demolition/Renovation Project Updates**

II. Market Manager Stauffer discussed the upcoming market office building demolition process. She mostly discussed already this in the facility & repairs portion, but reiterated that late January is the timeline for demolition. She mentioned removing the last items from the inside of the building, moving water source, moving the electrical source, and other last minute items. Vice Chair Young said she wants to have Parks Planner Fercho come and walk through the process of the community engagement process during the next in person PMAC meeting.

**III. Market Mobility Partner Proposal**

Chair Woolf gave his proposal about market mobility. Vice Young asked a question if it could be the staff of a current vendor- if he had thoughts about operationalizing it. She also wondered about vendor interest if someone wants to take this on. Commissioner Booge asked for the proposal access so that he could digest it more, although he thought it was a good idea.

Market Manager Stauffer spoke about the curbside pickup experience and the drawbacks. She asked whether this should be a separate vendor or something that the market itself provides? She

gave the example about market bags and how they took away our selling for the online Parks shops. She asked if it would be a delivery service as well? Chair Woolf answered a lot of the questions. Stauffer asked about Boober Tours as a partner & talked about the carts that the market used to have and how people walked off with them or left them far down the street by their cars. She also discussed options of May Mobility, the free driverless shuttle in the area, to see if that could be a potential partner.

Vice Chair Young said partnering with Boober or other entities to make it happen sounds like a good idea. She wondered if there could be designated parking space for pickup. Market Manager Stauffer let her know that people just started parking in those spots during the curbside time during COVID.

Vice Chair Young asked about the PMAC bylaws and if it is moving forward since she wants to have more voices on PMAC. Stauffer said first reading is January 6 2024 at City Council.

Commissioner Booge Booge asked since Planner Fercho is coming back in early January, maybe have the in person meeting in February to have Adam come and present to everyone.

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

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

Debbie Marx is a vendor who lives in Ann Arbor. She wanted to thank everyone in the commission for doing what they want to do for the market. She thanked Chair Woolf for his great idea of the market mobility project. She said she wants to see more help bringing more merchandise to people's cars so that they would not have to park twice. She also said that Hannah will be missed when she goes on her two months off & wants to thank her for all the work she has put in.

**L ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Woolf adjourned the meeting at 6:47pm

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