

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, June 20, 2024

5:30 PM

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Electronic Meeting
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Public Market Advisory Commission

A CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Young called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

B ROLL CALL

Present: 3 - Lisa Young, Jeff Nemeth, and James Booge IV

Absent: 2 - Peter Woolf, and Emma Hardy

C APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

No public commentary was provided

E APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

G REGULAR BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEMS)

- I. General Updates
 - a. Yearly Stall & Parking Payments
 - b. Events
 - c. Facility/Repairs

I. General Updates

a. Yearly Stall & Parking Payments

Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that there was a delay with invoicing at City Hall for the yearly vendor stall and parking payments. Vice Chair Young asked if the disruption of the mail due to the office closure had an impact on payments. Market Manager Stauffer stated that it should not be an issue since most vendors pay in person at market or mail a check to the City Finance Department directly.

b. Events

Market Manager Stauffer provided an overview of the past and upcoming events for the season, including cooking demos, live music, kid's events and more. Market Vendor Lupe Bolanos of It Kicks conducted the May cooking demo and Eleva Potter of Natural Areas Preservation (NAP) conducted the June demo, focused on edible foraged plants. She mentioned that AADL kids' programming are returning to the market next week. Commissioner Booge asked if market vendors could attend the Food Truck Rallies.

Commissioner Nemeth mentioned that they had attended it in the past, pre-COVID. Market Manager Stauffer said that she would discuss it with staff and see how we want to move forward.

c. Facility/Repairs

Market Manager Stauffer stated that power washing of the market walkways and stall areas had occurred and that we are still hoping to put up bird netting in August to try to address the perennial bird issue. She also mentioned that the gutters had been cleaned after massive flooding had happened in a few stalls during a large rain storm at market earlier in the month. Park Ops had found a large amount of plastic water bottles thrown into the gutters that they removed. She also mentioned that the leaking water in stall 43 had been addressed and that there was an ongoing scent issue with the throne that was being investigated as well as a potential second throne coming to the market area that Remy was looking into. Vice Chair Young mentioned that the sign-up for the Park Planning updates subscription about the Market Office project was not working.

II. Transfer of Seniority- Nemeth Orchard

Market Manager Stauffer provided some background about the Transfer of Seniority application for Nemeth Orchard. She said that Agnes Nemeth had passed away in May and that her great granddaughter Laila Nemeth would be taking over. She mentioned that it is a very straightforward transfer and that Laila had also been left the business in Agnes' will so that was clearly her intention to pass the orchard business to Laila. She also mentioned that Agnes was a huge presence at the market over many decades, even in recent years when her health stopped her from being able to attend the market. The vote was postponed until the next meeting since there were not enough Commission members present for quorum.

III. MIFMA Rapid Market Assessment Survey Questions

When discussing the survey questions for the upcoming Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) Rapid Market Assessment (RMA), Vice Chair Young had a lot of questions about the format and possible number of questions for the upcoming dot survey. She wants to see how much money people spend at the market, what type of products they are buying, and wants to ask questions about what people want to see for the new space. She also wanted to know if there could be 6 questions instead of 5. Commissioner Booge wanted to know about customer counts and how that would work with the RMA. Market Manager Stauffer and Assistant Market Manager Bradshaw asked Commission members to send question suggestions via email.

IV. Market Office Building Project Updates

Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that the Request for Proposals (RFP) is out for bid and that community engagement would happen soon after that.

H NEW BUSINESS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Vice Chair Young wanted to reiterate that the next meeting would be in person at City Hall and that Remy and Adam would be there to present updates about the construction project and the community engagement process. Market Manager Stauffer reminded the commissioners to not discuss the demolition and to refer any questions about it directly to Adam. She also asked about potential sound disruption from the 330 Detroit Street construction project and whether we have communication channels established for the 121 Catherine Street construction project.

J SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT (NOT LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS)

No public commentary provided

L ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 6:37pm.

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