

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, November 16, 2023

5:30 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, ConfRoom Basement A

Public Market Advisory Commission

A CALL TO ORDER

Chair Young called the meeting to order at 5:33pm

B ROLL CALL

Present: 3 - Peter Woolf, Lisa Young, and Jeff Nemeth

Absent: 1 - James Booge IV

C APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

Debbie Marx appreciates in person meeting & is looking forward to more. She thanks market staff for the survey to give input from vendors. She said It's all about the customers and that surveys should continue and align moving forward. Very thankful. Wants to bring up that the market is very dingy and very dirty and market staff should not have to jump through hoops to maintain a clean setting at the market. Asking for the market to be power-washed again like last year. Wants it to be done again. Wants the large wreaths on the market to be brought back. Wants more respect and care from parks.

E APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A motion was made by Woolf, seconded by Nemeth, that the October Meeting Minutes be Approved. On a voice vote, Chair Young declared the motion carried.

G REGULAR BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEMS)

I. General Updates

- a. New Vendors
- b. Staffing Update
- c. Events
- d. Facility & Repairs
- e. PMAC Kerrytown representative
- f. Vendor Survey

a. Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that a new vendor has been brought on and others have applications being processed.

b. Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that due to being down one staff person, we will be having staff from the Senior Center assist us over the Thanksgiving weekend. They hope to hire for the 3rd person in the new year, hopefully March.

c. Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that the official event season is over but we will be hosting food trucks at the market and Kerrytown District Association plans on bringing back Kindfest.

d. Market Manager Stauffer provided information about overall market building repairs. She noted that gutter repairs partially complete but still need to be completed. ADA compliance issues also remain with the office building and market itself. She also noted the complaints about the birds and bird removal/power washing- to see if there is the capacity to take out nests and put netting under the roof before spring nesting season. Commissioner Woolf made some suggestions for methods to tackle the recurring urinal issue.

e. Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that the new PMAC Kerrytown representative – Emma Hardy will be joining the December meeting after City Council confirmation.

f. Vendor Survey

Market Manager Stauffer said that the survey is out and we will be bringing in as many as we can until it is completed. She answered Christine Schopieray's question about artisan vendors and a moratorium on that- mentioned that 2 new vendors have skincare products- gave info about zilch & zero waste model and how it fits in with our customer base.

II. Continuing Conversations

- a. Bylaw Changes- referred to City Legal Department for review
- b. Market Office Building Repairs

a. Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that the bylaws are in process for Legal to Review, after not being update for ~10 years. Commissioner Woolf gave a recap of the changes- expanding the body, one new vendor, other people, changing the balance of

vendor to others, term limits, and conflict of interest clause.

b. Market Manager Stauffer gave the background about the urgent need for market office building repairs. Christine had a question about the timeline and process of it all.

Commissioner Woolf was thinking about public access on the second floor and is not sure how that could happen. He said that storage came up before and that was still something that needs to be addressed. He thought the market could also de-ice the sidewalks with geothermal and that would be on demand when it would be needed, specifically storing summer heat for winter. He said it would entail embedding it in the concrete and would be more expensive but could make sidewalks warm. Example: somewhere from Upstate NY. Needs to answer what are the values and missions and how does the whole project satisfy that. Stauffer mentioned another item that is needed is a market office window that is accessible, combined with going curb-less outside the office building. Carol Scott said that late vendor Coleman Jewett had geothermal in his house. Stauffer mentioned that because of the site the market is in, it is managed by many different entities together.

Chair Young wanted to know the inventory for what the market does need for storage. If the City wants to work on the design of this for the market office building, she wants the City to do the design work for all parts of the market. She wants to emphasize that this plan should be feasible unlike the other two plans that the market has had in the past 10 years. Chair Young wants to capture grant funding and wants to take into account other initiatives like the A2Zero plan and wants to hear the City say that they are committed to the location. She also wants to understand better what the funds are & what other resources are available at the disposal for the project. Additionally, she wants to explore options for the canopy and protection of the vendors from wind and cold. She knows that it will take some creative planning and wants to see if there is interest and commitment from Parks to get others involved outside of Parks.

Commissioner Nemeth doesn't want people to forget about doing heat on the market in the long-term. He wants to know if they can do solar on the roof to off-set the waste of energy. He knows it would need to be electric and not gas, and wants to know if it can be solar.

Assistant Market Manager Bradshaw mentioned that the Parks Planners are short staffed and wants everyone to better understand

the constraints with the long term questions being answered. She also mentioned that the Legal Department of the City is strongly risk adverse and can be somewhat hard to navigate for large projects. She also said collaboration with OSI sounds great but it may not be infrastructure based so the funding may not be available. In addition, she hoped that communication with upper management would be streamlined now that Remy is coming aboard. She also mentioned she likes the idea of breaking up the project and focusing on its points.

H NEW BUSINESS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that Remy Long will be stepping into the role of the New Deputy Parks Manager overseeing the market. She clarified that the December meeting would be taking place as usual.

J SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT (NOT LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS)

Christine Schopieray- she really likes the idea of breaking down the master plan into phases. She asked questions about the expansion of the PMAC body.

Debbie Marx- said that agrees and she wants to do an overall assessment of the market when they figure out how to do it. She wants to still have more ideas included- wants the students to be involved. She said she loved the master plan and the geothermal idea. She wants the market to be winterized, specifically to just take the edge off and not be fully enclosed, and that little by little chunks can be tackled.

L ADJOURNMENT

Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 6:51pm

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