City of Ann Arbor

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Formal Minutes - Draft

Thursday, February 15, 2024

5:30 PM

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Public Market Advisory Commission

A CALL TO ORDER

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

B ROLL CALL

- Present: 4 Lisa Young, Jeff Nemeth, James Booge IV, and Emma Hardy
- Absent: 1 Peter Woolf

C APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Nemeth, seconded by Hardy, 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) No public comment provided

E APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

- Present: 4 Lisa Young, Jeff Nemeth, James Booge IV, and Emma Hardy
- Absent: 1 Peter Woolf

G REGULAR BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEMS)

I. General Updates

a. Market Manager Stauffer said that the March 1 deadline for returning vendors is approaching. She mentioned that there was some sort of mail disruption on January so that vendors received their applications later than usual.

b. Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that the new application for Assistant Manager is coming soon and that Hannah will be to work on March 2. c. Market Manager Stauffer discussed the ongoing urinal and plumbing issues in the market bathrooms

II. PMAC Officer Election

Market Manager Stauffer announced that Commissioner Woolf will be the 2024 PMAC Chair and Commissioner Young will be the 2024 PMAC Vice Chair

PRESENTATIONS

Parks Planner Adam Fercho gave a presentation about the upcoming Market Office project. He mentioned that instead of a repair of the market office itself, it will lead to a full market assessment more generally. This project and the Farmers Market Study it will be part of will also fall under the umbrella of the ADA Transition Plan and Parks Asset Management Plan that the Parks and Recreation Department have been working on. He also mentioned that this will have a full community engagement process with the following tentative timeline: March- RFP goes out April/May- Consultant will be selected Summer 2024- Analysis and Engagement will take place Fall 2024- Engagement will continue and result analysis will begin

Winter 2024- Market Study Plan will be finalized Spring/Summer 2025- Building plans will be finalized Fall/Winter 2025- Construction will begin on a new market building

Adam mentioned that he was looking to have a Steering Committee help navigate the process which will be made up of himself, Market Manager Stauffer, Stauffer's Supervisors Remy Long & Josh Landefeld, and PMAC daily vendor representative Booge. Park Planner Fercho said this is great that this is the 1st opportunity to do a whole market assessment and that staff will have to vacate the building on May 1 2024.

Commissioner Nemeth asked when the demolition of the building was happening. Park Planner Fercho said that the building will be sealed off after May 1 but the timeline has not yet been set.

Chair Young said that she was thrilled at the big picture assessment of the market and asked specifically about the solar array. She is also happy to see more collaboration between the market & OSI. Park Planner Fercho said that the 2nd solar array installation is on pause until the assessment is completed and that project is in partnership with OSI. He mentioned that we also need to improve the columns to make sure that they can support the solar array.

Commissioner Booge said it was great info and wants to have a meeting to talk about it in person. Super excited and wants to have a PMAC field trip to the market to discuss. Remy Long answered that only certain commissioners are able to meet in person. Market Manager Stauffer said that PMAC has tentatively decided to have the May meeting in person.

Chair Young asked about the finances of the project, specifically if money is set aside for this and if there are grants that can be pursued. She mentioned that she is happy to help. Park Planner Fercho mentioned that more information with specifics is coming soon and that the Market is one of the most important amenities in the Parks Department and we want to do this correctly.

Commissioner Hardy asked about the status of the parking lot and mentioned not wanting to obstruct vendor spots and make parking any more difficult for vendors as a result of this project.

Commissioner Nemeth said that he thought the construction trailer would make the most sense at the end of the sandlot where the portable bathrooms were during the height of the pandemic

Chair Young wanted to make sure everyone was aware of the construction of the affordable housing project on Catherine Street across from the market.

H NEW BUSINESS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Due to the importance of the market office renovation project Market Manager Stauffer said that we will table the producer only subcommittee meetings and reports until future meetings. The Bylaws update is also on hold until we can finalize the support language headed to City Council.

Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that she had a meeting with Jewish Family Services Refugee Entrepreneurship program to see how we can partner to bring some of their participants to the market space as vendors. More info forthcoming

J SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT (NOT LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS)

Vendor Debbie Marx wanted to send her appreciation to finally do a full market assessment that she has waited decades for. She has other issues that she wants to highlight in the future but wanted to let us know that she is so excited to know that this is going forward.

Chair Young wanted to give Remy Long space to introduce himself and new role overseeing the Market as part of his management of Natural Areas Preservation, The Greenbelt Program, and Parkland Acquisition.

L ADJOURNMENT

Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 6:25pm

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