

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, August 18, 2022

5:30 PM

This electronic meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99, and online at a2gov.org/watchCTN

Electronic Meeting

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Public Market Advisory Commission

A CALL TO ORDER

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

B ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Peter Woolf, Lisa Young, Jeff Nemeth, and Eric Farrell

Absent: 1 - Stephanie Willette

C APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

Vendor Ann Sheppard said that she was thankful that the commission was contemplating giving annual artisans, two permanent, assigned stalls. She mentioned that when the exception was made in 2019 to give her her seniority, it did not bring too many craft vendors to the market.

Vendor Bruce Upston said that he did not think the market was ready yet to make the proposed changes to the sign-in process.

E APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A motion was made by Nemeth, seconded by Farrell, that the Minutes from the previous meeting be Approved. On a voice vote, the Chair Young declared the motion carried.

G REGULAR BUSINESS (AGENDA ITEMS)**I. Facility**

Market Manager Stauffer provided updates on the facility and any repairs, cleaning and improvements. The market is waiting for Park Operations to power wash the walkways, stall areas, and the roof, before the cold comes.

II. Events

Market Manager Stauffer discussed the super successful Food Truck Rally that happened the day before the meeting. She mentioned as well the 2 more that are happening in the season. Other events mentioned included the October 13 'Local Food Festival', organized primarily by the Office of Sustainability and Innovation and the September 1 community gathering at the market to discuss the Catherine Street lot development.

III. Staff Updates

Market Manager Stauffer let the commission know that Assistant Manager Alex Bissell is about to go on his mandated two months off. He will return to markets in early November.

IV. 330 Detroit Street Development Update

Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that at the last meeting between impacting parties, the developer said they were still on target for a tentative October 1 start of construction.

V. Final Vote to Recommend Sign-In Process Changes to City Council

The Commission concluded some final discussions about the proposed changes to the sign-in process to reflect the process that has been used since market re-opened after lock-down in May 2022. Market Manager Stauffer read Commissioner Willette's letter, which touched on whether or not there needs to be penalties for 'no show' and or late cancellations. Market Manager Stauffer explained that he amount of true no shows is minimal, and it is much more likely that people are cancelling at the last minute due to emergencies like vehicle malfunctions, sudden illness, and that she would like to encourage some newer vendors to arrive by 6:30 at the latest. The Commission decided to update language to 'available, unoccupied spot' to reduce confusion. Chair Young called for a motion to recommend: Commissioner Wolfe put forward the motion, seconded by Nemeth. Commissioners Young, Nemeth, & Woolfe voted 'aye' while new Commissioner Eric Farrell abstained. Commissioner Willette was absent. Chair Young declared the motion carried and that the sign-in process changes would be recommended to City Council.

VI. Other Potential Rule Changes/Updates

a. **Artisan Vendor Restrictions Changes** (to allow 2 permanent stalls for annual status artisans that already pay for and use two stalls, and keep the cap at 2 stalls for artisan vendors)

b. **Producer-Only Rules Clarification** (to clarify rules on products that may fall into the gray area, like plant plugs, fish, certain value-added items, and merch. No changes proposed for artisan items or most farm products (exception: greenhouse plants).

c. **Transfer of Seniority Process** (to streamline this process, especially in the case of bereavement)

The Commission then discussed the agenda item of giving Annual Status Artisan vendors a 2nd permanent, assigned stall. Market Manager Stauffer mentioned that the change would impact 4 artisans and 4 stalls. There was a discussion about how that would change the total number of spots available to Artisans, and that the number would likely be 16 or 17 after the change. Instead of numbers, it was also discussed about whether it makes more sense to have 20% of the market be artisans, instead of constraining the number of stalls artisans could have assigned. Market Manager Stauffer also pointed out that the change would have very little impact on market day since the artisans in question already pay for and use two stalls. Commissioners agreed to allow these artisans to get their 2nd stall in the move-up coming up in September. Commissioners also agreed to figure out the question of how this will impact the rules- whether there needs to be a change to the total number of stalls allowed or whether there should just be a recommendation of market mix no more than 20% of vendors will be artisans. The Commission would vote on that part at the next meeting. The discussions of the producer-only rule and the transfer of seniority process were tabled until the next meeting.

H NEW BUSINESS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

No new business

J SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT (NOT LIMITED TO AGENDA ITEMS)

Artisan Vendor Ann Sheppard thanked the Commission for deciding to allow Artisans to have a second, permanent assigned stall.

L ADJOURNMENT

Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 7:06pm

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