

Bloomington Community Farmers' Market

Notice of Meeting

Monday, August 17, 2015 5:30 pm

Parks Conference Room, Suite 250

(812) 349-3738, veldmanm@bloomington.in.gov

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. New Business
 - Tatste fo Bloomington Review
 - Pets in the Market
 - GMO Panel Discussion
 - Plastic Bag Ordinance
 - Market Updates
4. Old Business
5. Adjournment

Bloomington Community Farmers' Market Advisory Council

Monday, August 17, 2015
5:30 pm

Parks Conference Room

Advisory Council Members Present

Bruce McCallister, Anna Dale, Bobbi Boos, Kathy Aiken, Leslie Burns, Carmen Siering, Rachel Rosolina, Janice Lilly. Christine Jones was absent without notice.

Market/City Staff

Marcia Veldman, Hanna Marriott, Robin Hobson

1. Call to Order

Leslie called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Minutes

The March 2015 minutes were approved.

3. Public Comment

No public comment.

4. New Business

A. Taste of Bloomington Review

Anna Dale brought her comments on the Taste to the group. Her concerns included her own experiences and feedback from other vendors and a community member. She noted the inconvenience of timing, parking, set-up, layout and shortened day. She wanted more information on the event and wondered if it could be changed to eliminate market disruption/dissatisfaction. Marcia gave the background on the Taste, saying this event pre-dated the Market at the current site and that the features of Showers Common were designed with the Taste in mind. A new start time (from noon to 3 pm) for the Taste was negotiated when the Market moved in 1998 and there are no plans to change the date and start time of Taste due to set-up timeline. Kathy asked about Market access point improvements from last year to this. Marcia noted improved access from B-Line at 7th St. She knew of no other plans to hold another event of this type. Taste is a fundraiser for HHFB, the Community Kitchen, BIRA and Downtown Bloomington, Inc. City involvement is nominal with a Parks member sitting on the Taste Board. Marcia will bring this feedback to Rebecca Barrick. Bobbi suggested advertising the beneficiaries of the event so that people might see the wider influence of Taste.

B. Pets in the Market

Kathy shared her habit of notifying people with pets of the no pets in the Market policy. She wondered how best to notify the public with additional signage. Robin shared her positive spin on customer notification in that regard and said that most people are receptive. A rundown of the eight signs posted around Market was presented.

C. GMO Panel discussion

Marcia recalled prior notice of GMO labelling issues given in the past year which lead up to a panel discussion and conversation event happening on September 14 in the City Hall atrium from 7-8:30 pm at City Hall. Through a collaborative grant

survey undertaken at Market, a question indicated that 77% of respondents supported GMO labelling. Sitting on the panel will be Rick Foster of Purdue Extension Entomologist, Marti Crouch, a biologist who is an expert on GMO crops, Jeff Padgett, organic grower, Mark Stoll and David Simmons, commercial producers at Market who utilize GMO seeds. Background will be given on what crops currently carry modified genes and pros and cons of use. Marcia will be generating interest for the event through newsletter announcements, local press, and conversation.

D. Plastic Bag Ordinance

E. Market Updates

5. Adjournment

Minutes submitted by Robin Hobson