

# Bloomington Community FMAC Mtg. Minutes

May 19, 2025 - 5:30 pm to 7 pm

Allison Conference Room  
401 North Morton

**FMAC Members Attending:** Tracy Bruce, Ben Gardner, John Norton, Karen Saint Rain (Vice Chair), Ed Robertson, Kip Schlegel (Chair), Pat Sigman, Michael Gleeson

**FMAC Members Absent:** Julia Fox

**Parks Staff in Attendance:** Clarence Boone, Camille Pushman

**Public Attendees:** Deborah Piston-Hatlen

## AGENDA

### 1. Call to Order

- Led by Kip Schlegel at 5:32pm

### 2. Approval of Minutes from April 21, 2025

- Vote to approve passed at 5:33pm, led by Kip

### 3. Old Business

#### ➤ FMAC Vacancies and Support

- **FBA:** Louise Miracle has been approached and consented. She has been vending since 2015 and seems more than qualified to fill the position.
- **Customer representative:** Long-time customer, first to arrive at the market. Caroline Calloway Thomas has semi-consented in her own way (a positive response but nothing concrete yet) to the position.
- Muddy Moon acre's Sara Lily has been recommended for the final position. Multiple endorsements from current council members.
- Park board does not meet in June, so the soonest they could join is July
- Why do FBA vendors only get one year terms, while farm vendors get 2 year terms?

### 4. New Business

#### ➤ Parks & Rec Master Plan Updates

- Jamie Shabbach, an IU affiliate, will lead this charge. Folks will have a chance to provide feedback.

#### ➤ April/May Market Counts: 2025 counts (2024 counts)

- **April 26th:** Customer Count 2,310 (1,725) / Vendor Count 50 (38)
- **April totals:** 7,494 people (7,548), average 145 (149)
- **May 3rd:** Customer Count 3,138 (2,394) / Vendor Count 53 (55)
- **May 10th:** Customer Count 3731 (2,871) / Vendor Count 56 (53)
- **May 17th:** Customer Count 4,764 (3,252) / Vendor Count 58 (57)
- **Social Media Stats for April:** 132,751 people reached (16k in 2024, >700% increase)
- Day-of and highlight posts are attracting engagements!

#### ➤ Vendor Questions on Compost Collection

- Consensus is that they can communicate directly with market vendors to collect compost from vendors, but this would be between them and the vendor and not facilitated by the market in any official way.

- Having customers bring compost could be problematic for multiple reasons. What if customers bring something that is compostable, should they carry around that trash for the rest of the market? Will it end up in the market trash cans? Will the compost bin smell and dissuade customers from that area of the market?
- Motion provided to perform a trial run of the proposed compost program
  - Vendors are able to keep up to a 27 gallon bin at their booth for compostables
  - Vendors may speak with other vendors about whether they would like to contribute to the compost bin, but the Farmers' market will not directly endorse/communicate about this
  - Vendors can only contribute compost generated **at the market** by the vendor. Customers may not contribute to the compost program.
  - This would be applicable to any vendors who wish to make this request, not just Lake House Farms
  - The proposed plan can be revoked at any time for any non-compliance or issues that arise, with an intent to officially re-visit the collection system at the July 2025 FMAC meeting
- Motion moved forward with a unanimous vote
  - Tuesday Market/Hopewell Commons Updates
    - The North, East, and South sides of the stage will have vendors set up. Food Trucks will be set up along W. University Street
    - Parking is available along Madison and University Street
  - June Upcoming FM Events
    - Youth at the Market, June 21st
      - 18 tents so far
      - Entertainment being put together
  - FMAC Assistance on FM Saturdays & Optional Tuesday Markets

**5. Public Comment** - anything unrelated to agenda items

- The tables and chairs are great! Makes the market feel like a community
- The bathrooms have been running out of toilet paper and paper towels!
- The electrical outlets in the E and A row have been an issue the past few weeks and are being resolved.
- Apple Rose really enjoys being on the plaza! Adds a sample size of 1 to the consideration of this.
- What is the RainMate's ultimate purpose? We shouldn't allow them to give it away at the market... But they should probably be fine to give information about it and let people sign up.

**6. Adjournment**

- Led by Kip Schlegel at 6:57pm