

## **Bloomington Community Farmers' Market Advisory Council Minutes**

**November 17, 2025 - 5:30 pm to 7 pm**

**Allison Conference Room (rm. 225)**

**401 North Morton**

**Attendees:** Tracy Bruce, Julia Fox , Ben Gardner (virtual), Michael Gleeson, Louise Miracle, Karen Saint Rain (Vice Chair), Edward Robertson, Kip Schlegel (Chair)

**Absent:** John Norton, Patricia Sigman, Carolyn Calloway-Thomas

**Parks Staff Present:** Clarence Boone (FM Coord.), Aaron Biggs (Rec. Svcs. Gen. Mgr.), and Camille Pushman (FM Staff Asst.)

**Public Guest in Attendance:** Julie Tobin, (owner/operator of Blooming Bowls)

### **1. Call to Order: at 5:31**

### **2. Approval of Minutes from October 20th, 2025: *Minutes Approved***

### **3. Old Business**

- **Recommendations on new Food Truck Pricing** - Ranging viewpoints included:
  - Consider how a price increase might impact operating costs specific to food trucks, (i.e. storage fees during off-season). Would an increase be too burdensome? Food truck maneuverability and excessive generator noise is also a concern. Is it fair to assess increased fees on FTVs that park near the large electrical box? Should FM management explore options of relocating outside the bollards and lining up toward Rogers?
- **Suggested pricing changes/levels included:**
  - "No change in Fee" – keep it at \$35
  - \$35 per actual space used capping at \$70 (2 spaces).
  - \$25 per space used (cap at \$50).
  - \$50 flat fee.
  - A consensus opinion formed that vendors operating within a single, standard market space will continue to pay the existing \$35 weekly fee. Vendors that require more than one market space to operate will be assessed a higher flat fee of \$50 per week.

#### **❖ Upcoming items to address: Contract/Application Changes and Handbook Revisions**

- Consider adding verbiage to remind vendors of noise restrictions (generators, amplified music, etc.)
- Consider allowing vendors to share their space with other vendors (most applicable for people with seasonal goods, like the mums, lavender, corn and asparagus vendors)
- Should vendors be permitted to set up tents under the awnings?
- Dates for alternating vendors should be laid out in the handbook at the start of the season. Or, a simple policy of alternating irrespective of any 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays
- An equitable FBA spacing policy should take into account when farmers have fewer products to sell or are not attending due to lack of seasonal produce.

#### **4. New Business**

- ❖ October/November Market Counts & Updates
  - October 4<sup>th</sup> wk.: 4,221 (3,183) / 56 (54)
  - Total for October 19,077 (10,380) / Avg. 56 (54)
  - November 1<sup>st</sup> wk.: 2,241 (2,232) / 53 (43)
  - November 2<sup>nd</sup> wk.: 2,085 (2,499) / 46 (40)
  - November 3<sup>rd</sup> wk.: 1,935 (1,803) / 48 (49)
- ❖ Customer Survey Results (67 received to date) & Update on FM Vendor Surveys (targeting early December to send out)
- ❖ Preview of compelling Marble Hill video shot and published by Caleb Poer
- ❖ Holiday Market Updates
  - 17 BCFM vendors
  - 63 Craft vendors (48 inside & 15 outside)
  - Request for FMAC Volunteers
- ❖ Introduction of Aaron Biggs, Recreation Services General Manager

#### **5. Public Comment – anything unrelated to agenda items**

#### **6. Adjournment: at 6:51 pm**