

**Bloomington Community Farmers' Market Advisory Council Minutes
for
March 30, 2026**

Attendees: Tracy Bruce, Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Julia Fox, Ben Gardner, Michael Gleeson, Louise Miracle, John Norton, and Edward Robertson

Absent: Karen Saint Rain (Vice Chair), Kip Schlegel (Chair), and Patricia Sigman

Parks Staff Present: Clarence Boone (FM Coordinator) & Camille Pushman (FM Staff Assistant)

- I. **Call to Order: at 5:33**
- II. **Approval of Minutes from February 16, 2026: *Minutes Approved***
- III. **Agenda**

A. Old Business

A-1 Results of Food & Beverage Product Taste Sampling

- i. 8 Prospective FBA Saturday Vendors were evaluated
 - 1. 3 Ethnic Vendors
 - 2. 5 Bakers/3 Hot Food Vendors
- ii. 9 Evaluators participated
- iii. 3 FBA vendors were selected

A-2 Space Reservation Meeting

- i. Overall, well attended and productive.
- ii. Hosting in the COB Council Chambers is ideal
- iii. Refreshments were greatly appreciated
- iv. Splitting up FBA from Farmers works well
- v. Payment processing was smoother
- vi. What suggestions for improvement do you have?

A-3 New FMAC Appointments

- i. Given the 8 who expressed a desire to reapply, there are 2 who will be terming off.
- ii. I am looking at 1 prospective Customer Rep
 - 1. Robin Kitowski
- iii. Will hold to further assess a FBA Rep

B. New Business

B-1 Timeline for Upcoming Farmers' Market 2026 Season

Date	Action
2/20/26	All applications due (for any farm vendor wanting a reserved spot), Innovative Farm Vendor?, FBA RFPs and Food Truck RFPs
2/26/26	FBA Product Sampling
2/20-27/26	Notify farm vendors and FBA and food truck vendors of BCFM acceptance. Mail contracts, handbook, W9, market bucks guide, and optional demographic survey to approved vendors.
3/5/26	Space Reservation Meeting and possible New Vendor Orientation
3/20/26	Farm Vendors selling at FM need to have contract on file.
3/20/2026	Online and paper Vendor Profile submissions for the Market website due.
4/4/2026	BCFM Starts (April Pre-Peak)
5/2/2026	May-October Season Starts

- i.
- ii.

B-2 2026 FM Seasonal Staff

- i. The following veteran staff will be returning:
 1. Camille Pushman (Staff Assistant-2nd Year)
 2. Sarah Nolan (2nd Year)
 3. Greta Heyl (2nd Year)
 4. Kanye Roberts (3rd Year)
- ii. The following individuals are 1st-timers:
 1. Lola Faggiani
 2. Sofia Sesmas
 3. Karen Beth Bredlau

B-3 FMAC Volunteer Opportunities at Farmers' Market as Ambassadors

- i. Consider Helping out at Info Table on Saturday Mornings for 1 hour to 90 minutes
- ii. Assistance during signature FM programs (Youth Day @ the Market: 6/20, 7/21-Tuesday, and 9/26/ Tomato Taste: 8/15 / Apple Taste: 10/3)
- iii. Visit some Tuesday Markets

B-4 FMAC Mentor/Mentee Opportunities

- i. FMAC/Vendor oriented workshops on such things as farming/FBA techniques; marketing your booth and operations; work-life balance, etc.

C. Public Comment – anything unrelated to agenda items

C-1 Ideas were shared to enhance FMAC visibility at the FM – some type of special designation

IV. ADJOURNMENT at 7:10 PM

NEXT MEETING: April 20, 2026 at 5:30 PM / Location: City Hall, Allison Conference (First Floor # 225)