

Bloomington Community Farmers' Market Advisory Council Minutes
April 20, 2026

Attendees: Karen Saint Rain (Vice Chair), Tracy Bruce, Carolyn Calloway-Thomas, Julia Fox, Ben Gardner, Michael Gleeson, Louise Miracle, Patricia Sigman, and Edward Robertson

Absent: John Norton and Kip Schlegel (Chair)

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

Public in Attendance: Deborah Hatlen and Robin Kitowski

I. Call to Order @ 5:33

II. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from March 30, 2026 accepted @ 5:35pm

III. Agenda

a. Old Business

- FMAC Volunteer Opportunities at Farmers' Market as Ambassadors

b. New Business

- April Farmers' Market observations & customer/vendor counts
 - *General Observations from 4/4 thru 4/18:*
 - Great energy in the FM (Customers, Staff & Vendors –several selling out)
 - Bistro Tables were a great addition – we'll locate additional areas to place them
 - Vendors had little difficulty finding their spaces
 - Rain – Rescheduled entertainer to July 4th
 - A few errors with set-up and Market Buck processing – will address
 - Will have adjusted the A Row and striped boundaries in the center aisle, and chalked spaces on the FM plaza for FBA before 4/11 Market
 - We addressed vendor spacing in D Row (a bit too much encroachment)
 - Plaza water supply valve seized. Ops has repaired. Fortunately, Brown County Coffee brought a supply of water for brewing
 - *Customer & Vendor Counts: (x) – 2025 Totals*
 - April 18th wk.: 1,329 (1,341) / 41 (39)
 - April 11th wk.: 3,543 (2,895) / 39 (33)
 - April 4th wk.: 2,418 (945) / 32 (23)
- Social media stats: Parks & Rec community relations team
 - In 2025, in the week leading up to the Farmers' Market my countdown campaign brought in 46,500 views. This year, my countdown campaign brought in 71,600, marking a 53% increase.
 - So far in April, our content has been performing well. We have brought in 127,800 views across Facebook and Instagram. If this pacing keeps up, April will likely be record setting for views since I started in 2024.
 - The number to beat is 205,000 views from May 2025.
- FMAC mentor/mentee opportunities were discussed (

c. Public Comment - anything unrelated to agenda items

- Tuesday market: Give signs to vendors saying ‘see me at the Tuesday market!’ and give a half sheet to vendors with details about where to go/when/etc.
- Discussion on 2026 Boards and Commissions Conflict of Interest Form
- Shout Out to Robin Gitowski (prospective Customer Rep for FMAC)

IV. Adjournment @ 7:10 PM

a. Next Meeting: May 18, 2026

b. Location: City Hall, Allison Conference Room #225, 401 N. Morton St. in Bloomington, Ind.

Farmers' Market Advisory Council Members

| Advisory Council Member | Appointed by | Appointment Date | Term |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Tracy Bruce | Board of Park Commissioners | 1/1/2024 | 1/1/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Carolyn Calloway-Thomas | Board of Park Commissioners | 8/20/2025 | 8/20/2025-3/31/2026 |
| Julia Fox | Board of Park Commissioners | 12/16/2024 | 12/16/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Ben Gardner | Board of Park Commissioners | 1/2/2024 | 1/2/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Michael Gleeson | Board of Park Commissioners | 4/28/2020 | 4/1/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Louise Miracle | Board of Park Commissioners | 2/13/2025 | 2/13/2025-12/31/2026 |
| John Norton | Board of Park Commissioners | 1/1/2024 | 1/1/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Edward Robertson | Board of Park Commissioners | 6/27/2024 | 6/27/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Karen Saint Rain | Board of Park Commissioners | 4/1/2024 | 4/1/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Kip Schlegel | Board of Park Commissioners | 4/1/2024 | 4/1/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Patricia Sigman | Board of Park Commissioners | 6/27/2024 | 6/27/2024-3/31/2026 |
| Clarence Boone, Staff Liasion | N/A | N/A | N/A |