

**Bloomington Community Farmers' Market
Advisory Council Minutes
January 23, 2023**

FMAC Members Attending: Cortland Carrington (Chair), Mike Gleeson, Karen Saint Rain, Kip Schlegel, Lynn Schwartzberg, Rebecca Vadas (virtual), Macaulay Ward (virtual)

FMAC Members Absent: Tracy Bruce, Phrueksaphong "Chang" Visuthduangdusdee

Parks Staff in Attendance: Clarence Boone and Sarah Mullin

Members of the Public: Ben Gardner, Deborah Hatlen, and Edward Robertson

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Cortland Carrington.

Approval of Minutes: December minutes were reviewed and accepted.

1. New Business - Clarence provided reports on the following:

- **FMAC Vacancies: Customer and Food and Beverage Artisan**
 - The Farmers' Market Advisory Council consists of 11 members representing Market vendors, customers and food and beverage artisans (FBA). The Council acts in an advisory capacity to the Board of Park Commissioners and Park staff on policy matters relating to the Farmers' Market. There are two positions open; one food and beverage position and one customer representative position. We received 3 applications for the customer representative with one strongly being considered.
 - Next Steps: After vetting, the prospective customer representative will be submitted for review by the Parks Board at their February meeting.
 - Recommendations for an FBA representative were solicited from FMAC.
 - FMAC members were asked to consider serving in the Vice President position. Lynn Schwartzberg consented.
- **2022 Year-End Review (Clarence shared a 2022 Year-End wrap-up slide show)**
 - Content included:
 - Customer and Vendor Attendance Stats
 - Results of the Customer and Vendor Survey
 - Farm 2 Family Impact Summary
 - Revenue & Expense Totals for 2022 w/ 2023 Projections
 - Programmatic Highlights for the Farmers' Market Season
 - Entertainment /New Vendor Highlights
 - Recognition of Seasonal and Parks and Recreation Staff

➤ 2023 Timeline Updates (January)

- Recruiting Seasonal Staff
- Logging Incoming Vendor Apps 12 as of 1-23-23
- Sent out a Market Beet w/ links to vendor apps and timelines
- Updating Farmers' Market Website Content
- Updates to handbook/contracts/exhibits/and RFPs vetted by Legal and will be presented at 1-24 Parks Board meeting
- Entertainment Call outs have been sent w/16 responses to date
- Planning space reservation meeting scheduled for 3-9-23
- Park Board meeting 1-24-23
- January Bravo Award Winner - Merrill Hatlen

➤ Space Reservation Meeting

- Scheduled for 3-9-23 @ Switchyard Park
- All Farm Vendors are to be invited
- All w/ space allocations, we are planning for SNAP/WIC presentations
- Monroe County Health Department presentation
- Farm 2 Family Representative

➤ Public Comment/Good of the Order: Edward Robertson, representing the Monroe County Democratic Party, made a request that the Farmers' Market change the schedule for Information Alley, from the 1st Saturday to every Saturday. The following information for Information Alley was shared:

- Info Alley - (1st) Saturday of every month April- November
- Info Alley is a "designated free speech area for the Market"
- Installation of Bollards Area does not provide desired protection and restricts number of available spots.
- To date, we have decrease in participation
- Take it under advisement with internal staff
- IA guidance and polices will be sent out late February/early March

2. Adjournment: Seeing no more comments from the council or public, a call was made and accepted for adjournment at 6:45 p.m.