

# **Bloomington Community Farmers' Market**

## **Advisory Council Minutes**

### **October, 21 2024**

**FMAC Members Attending:** Tracy Bruce, Michael Gleeson, Karen Saint Rain (Vice Chair), Edward Robertson, Kip Schlegel (Chair), Patricia Sigman,

**FMAC Members Absent:** Ben Gardner, Chris Manansala

**Parks Staff in Attendance:** Clarence Boone, Leslie Brinson, and Sarah Mullin

**Public Attendees:** Jeffery Gardner (virtual, of Papa G's)

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Kip Schlegel (Chair)

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from September 16, 2024 were reviewed and approved.

#### **1. Old Business**

- **BCFM Consultant Study Update:** (presentation by Leslie Brinson)
- **Vendor Product Clarification of Acceptability (Discussion part 2) with Jeffery Garland of Papa G's**
  - ***IMPORTANT NOTE: All products are within state and federal legal guidelines.***
  - CDB and CBG products have only trace amounts of THC; mushrooms (the majority of their products at market) contain no hemp.
  - Supplements only; vendor makes no claims to act as medicine to cure/treat disease.

#### **2. New Business**

- **Update on November Farmers' Market & Holiday Market (Applications/ Timeline)**
  - November Farm Vendors: Bread and Roses Gardens, Earth Song Farm, Graber's Produce, Hi-Acre Farm, Morningside, Olde Lane Orchard, Raber Family Produce, Rainbow Tropical Plant, Schacht Farm.
  - November FBAs: Scholars Inn, Kettle Corn.
  - Collaboration with Bloomington Winter Farmers' Market: will have other farm vendors and FBAs attending.
  - Holiday Market Farm Vendors: Bread and Roses Gardens, Heartland Family Farms, Hi-Acre Farm, Hunter's Honey, Living Roots, Lost Pond, Marble Hill Farm, Morningside, Twilight Dairy, Poseys and Pumpkins, Olde Lane, MKONO, Tallow.
  - Holiday Market FBAs: Brown County Coffee, Kettle Corn, Muddy Fork, Simple Raw Eats, Sofra Bakery, Considerate Burrito, The Crepe Outdoors.
- **FM Saturday and Tuesday Stats: September 21<sup>st</sup> thru October 19<sup>th</sup> (2024/2023)**
  - September 21<sup>st</sup>: Customer Count 1572 (2046) / Vendor Count 53 (54)
  - September 28<sup>th</sup>: Customer Count 768 (3402) / Vendor Count 59 (46)

- Total September: Customer Count 7677 (11,889) / Vendor Average 41(50)
    - October 5<sup>th</sup>: Customer Count 2385 (1233) / Vendor Count 57 (50)
    - October 12<sup>th</sup>: Customer Count 2499 (2178) / Vendor Count 55 (50)
    - October 19<sup>th</sup>: Customer Count 2313 (1050) / Vendor Count 60 (55)
  - Farmers' Market Tuesday Stats:
    - September 17<sup>th</sup>: Vendors 2 (5) / Customers 70 (212)
    - September 24<sup>th</sup>: Vendors 2 (5) / Customers 64 (198)
      - Total for September: 11(17) Vendors / Cust. 390 (528)
      - Total All Tuesday Mkts: 5 (6) Vendors / Cust. 2549 (2766)
  - **Apple Tasting Update:**
    - Three vendors: Graber's (4 varieties), Hi-Acre (6 varieties), and Olde Lane (18 varieties) drew substantial crowds.
  - **Harvest for the World:**
    - Nine vendors: Aahaa Chai, Changs Farm, LaFinca Coffee, Mama Dukes, Maru, Piccoli Dolci, Pili's, Pinoy, and Sofra; Canku Luta was also present.
    - Four artists/musicians: Adam Rivere, Sophia Crespo, Double Standards, and Matixando; customers and vendors appreciated the more upbeat music that played up until 1pm.
  - **Policy Discussions**
    - **2025 Pricing Discussion:**
      - Proposed new pricing levels:
        - Large booths: \$25/ small booths: \$20
        - Senior rates: \$20 lg./\$15 sm. (grandfathered 2024 rate will apply to current senior vendors in 2025)
        - All Food and Beverage Vendors: \$30
        - All Food Trucks: \$35
        - 10 % discount if vendors apply for the entire year
        - A 1<sup>st</sup> year selling discount (TBD)
  - **November and Holiday Market**
    - Application portal is closed; placement decisions have been made for November and vendors will be notified on Wednesday.
    - Holiday market placements to be finalized shortly.
  - **FMAC Recruitment of 2 Customer Representatives and 1 Farm Vendor Rep**
    - Still seeking names for suggestion; individuals interested in customer and farm vendor role; additional customer role member needed.

3. **Public Comment** – anything unrelated to agenda items.

4. **Motion to Adjourn** was called and accepted at 7:34 p.m.