

Farmers' Market Advisory Council Meeting

June 21, 2021, 5:30- 7:00 pm

FMAC Members in Attending: Cortland Carrington, Mike Gleeson, Whitney Schlegel, Lynn Schwartzberg, Rebecca Vadas, Mara-Lea Rosenbarger

FMAC Members Absent: Janice Lilly

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

Members of the Public: (none)

Call to Order:

Call to order at 5:35 pm by Cortland

Approval of Minutes

After quorum was met, June minutes approved by unanimous consent.

Old Business

Staff Recruitment (Farmers' Market Leaders)

Clarence shared with the group that in addition to Olivia Shoemaker joining the Farmers' Market as a Market Leader, two additional seasonal hires were made. They are Austin Fletcher and Isaiah DelFierro.

New Business

Park Board Recommendation for two FMAC appointments

Clarence shared that the Park Board recommendations for the appointment of Nelia Hostetter (Sweet Clair Bakery) and Cathy Bayt to the Farmers' Market Advisory Council will be determined at the next Park Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 22.

Updates on Saturday and Tuesday Farmers' Markets

Clarence shared that due to the inclement weather, a musical bucket drumming corps had to cancel their performance. Also, the City's masking and social distancing protocols for the Farmers' Market remain in effect. Sarah Mullin reported that the WIC and Area 10 Agency on Aging have started to attend both markets. Given last Saturday's inclement weather, the voucher distribution was slower than usual. Nevertheless, it is exciting that our Farmers' Market program is able to triple benefits to provide a greater impact for families.

Public Comment

A question arose regarding the Saturday, June 19 Farmers' Market and whether or not there are procedures in place to cover weather events. It was shared that other than what is in the Farmers' Market Handbook regarding severe weather, at the current time, there is no particular policy. Clarence provided some context on that day. The bad weather (including flooding) necessitated an 8:30 opening. The market did continue operating in spite of 9 vendor cancellations. At around 11:30, there were radar indications of another storm heading our direction. Upon some concerns from vendors, the market staff canvassed the vendors and a decision was made to close the market for safety reasons. Due to these circumstances, no vendors were adversely affected by the point system. Discussion was held concerning possible cancellation and notification of both customers and vendors. Clarence will look into some options and resource possible protocols.

There were no other public comments and Cortland motioned for adjournment.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:58 by unanimous consent.