

## Oak Park Farmers' Market ~ March 11, 2009 Agenda ~ Room 102 ~ 7:00p.m.

*QUORUM CHECK: A quorum (at minimum, 5 commissioners) must be present to legally transact business. Please excuse yourself in advance of the meeting if you will not be attending.*

- 1) Approving minutes from February 2009 meeting
- 2) Proposal from Master Gardner's Program for consideration on May 30<sup>th</sup> event
- 3) Budget Report – Mike Charley
- 4) Committees & Special Events
  - ⇒ Finalize name & details for May 30<sup>th</sup> special event
  - ⇒ Share brief statements/descriptions

### Opening Day/Vendor's Breakfast:

The purpose of this event is to start off the market season on a good note; for the market vendors to familiarize themselves with each other, the market managers and the market chairperson; to create an atmosphere of comfort; and to ensure that all parties involved are aware of market rules.

### Closing Day/Stone Soup:

The purpose of this event is to end the market season on a good note; to create a sense of unity & community amongst the vendors and the patrons; to thank the vendors and patrons for their commitment and participation; to celebrate the cooperation and generosity of our market family

The Public Relations Committee is responsible for promoting the Oak Park Farmer's Market. This includes, but is not limited to, updating the Farmer's Market website, advertising, and submitting press releases. To achieve these tasks, the PR Committee acts as a liaison to the Oak Park Communications Director.

- 5) Manager's Report – Meredith Conn
  - ⇒ Submitted applications status
  - ⇒ Bread application update
- 6) Church Liaison – Jeff Petertil
- 7) CIC Update – We are now a commission of 8 (out of 11). Come May 1<sup>st</sup>, when Maggie's term expires, we will be functioning at 7. I have reached out to the CIC commission as well as to the Village Clerk's Office informing them of our commissioner status.
- 8) Growers' Liaison – Jim Vitalo
- 9) Merchandise & Sales Committee Report – Maggie Den Hartog
- 10) Friends' Committee – Barbara Dolan
- 11) PR Committee Report – Betsy Fechalos
- 12) New Business – The OPFM will be on Village Board's agenda for March 16<sup>th</sup>. The item for discussion is our proposed/updated rules of operation (mostly in regards to the bread addition & early opening).

- 13) Old Business: Non-smoking update. Missing page 6 in last official OPFM rules of operation from 1991 was found & on it, it states “Smoking or other use of tobacco is not permitted in sales area.” In addition, according to the Smoke Free Illinois Act (Public Act 095-0017), effective January 1, 2008: “Section 30. Designation of other nonsmoking areas. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, any employer, owner, occupant, lessee, operator, manager, or other person in control of any public place or place of employment may designate a non-enclosed area of a public place or place of employment, including outdoor areas, as an area where smoking is also prohibited provided that such employer, owner, lessee or occupant shall conspicuously post signs prohibiting smoking...” So, it’s already been law & no one realized it. Melissa will be sure to include a copy of our rules of operation, as well as a copy of the Smoke Free Illinois Act in the white notebook at our market tent. (Maybe we can put this on our website too?)
- 14) Confirm next meeting date – Wednesday, April 8, 2009 (Meredith & Kathy – will you be able to make it as it’s the 1<sup>st</sup> night of Passover? I will be available. If we don’t have a full house maybe we should reschedule?) Discuss amongst yourselves.
- 15) Chairperson’s Report – Melissa Wittenberg
- ⇒ Interested bread parties have been notified that bread will be allowed for sale at the market starting this season. Once the bread application is ready, I will reach out to them again. At the moment, Red Hen Bread, Great Harvest Bread Company & Prairie Bread Kitchen all say that they are interested in participating. In a nice way, I will make it clear that submitted applications are for consideration (and completed applications don’t equate to approval)
  - ⇒ Now that “early opening” is part of our regular market season from here on out, do you think that I should make one last visit to the market neighbors on 100 N. Elmwood & Scoville Avenues to inform them of the update by passing out short flyer as I’ve done in the past?
  - ⇒ Interesting tidbit: I spoke with Robert Baren, Chief of Staff in IL State Senator Don Harmon’s Office as they mailed me proposed legislation to consider and offer feedback on. It pertains to health code regulations and farmers’ markets (Senate Bill 1494). It’s my opinion that as our market is currently under health department jurisdiction (while a lot of farmers’ markets are not) our market shouldn’t be negatively affected by any new legislation.

16) Adjourn

Mission Statement:

*The Oak Park Farmers' Market provides access to healthy, locally grown food and other products in a community setting, while celebrating social connections and building cooperation between urban and rural.*