

Oak Park Farmers' Market Commission Meeting ~ September 9, 2009 Minutes

Present: Warren Bakker, Rebekah Braslow, Meredith Conn (staff), Sampada Dali, Betsy Fechalos, Kathy Lewis (staff), Chris Mitchell, Jeff Petertil (church liaison), Frank Pond, Melissa Wittenberg (chair)

Absent/Excused: Mike Charley (staff), Barbara Dolan, Nancy Fjortoft, Gail Grabowski

- 1) The Meeting was called to order by Melissa Wittenberg at 7:04 PM.
- 2) Non-Agenda Public Comment.
 - A. There was no public comment.
- 3) Approval of August 2009 minutes
 - A. The minutes from the August 9, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.
- 4) Budget Report
 - A. There was no budget report presented
- 5) Chairperson's Report
 - A. M. Wittenberg urged new and continuing commissioners to review current committees, special event coordinators & members and to sign up as necessary. All commissioners are to serve on at least one committee and assist with at least one special event.
 - B. M. Wittenberg reminded commissioners about vacancies for the October Booth shifts and reminded all commissions of the expected number of shifts/season = 7 + special events
- 6) Special Events
 - A. M. Wittenberg announced Grower's/Friend's Luncheon is scheduled for September 26, 2009. Commissioners are welcome to attend as well. B. Dolan is ordering the food.
 - B. M. Wittenberg announced that Stone Soup is scheduled for October 31, 2009. Volunteers are needed.
- 7) Manager's Report
 - A. M. Conn reported that she contacted Loretta Daly to follow up on possibility of a mid-week market.
 - B. M. Conn reported that Ray Heiss, the Village Attorney, has requested that the commission make a definition of "cheese maker" for use in the ordinance. The management committee will address this.
 - C. M. Conn reported that the corn roast made approximately one-half as much as last year. This was likely due to the change in location and some logistical reasons.
 - D. M. Conn reported that the restaurant Wishbone, located in Berwyn, was interested in conducting a food demo. C. Mitchell raised concerns about promoting non-Oak Park businesses. M. Conn indicated that she would investigate further.
 - E. M. Conn is talking with vendors to help them understand and identify the broad range of sustainable farming techniques.
- 8) Church Liaison
 - A. J. Petertil reported that the formerly sluggish donut sales seemed to be rebounding and that profits have increased in recent weeks.
- 9) Growers' Liaison
 - A. There was no formal report presented.

10) Merchandise & Sales Committee Report

A. C. Mitchell will explore options for purchasing and selling re-useable mugs at the booth.

11) PR Committee Report

A. Next year marks the market's 35th anniversary. B. Fecahlos will explore possibility of obtaining street light banners to promote the anniversary.

B. C. Mitchell requested that the location/address of the market be included on the green special event cards next year.

C. M. Conn will contact Leslie Boehns about the possibility of doing a time-lapsed video of the market set-up.

12) New Business

A. M. Wittenberg led a discussion to update and modify the 2010 Work Plan.

13) Old Business

A. None

14) Confirm next meeting date – October 14, 2009 – Room 101

15) The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Minutes recorded by C. Mitchell