

Oak Park Farmers Market Commission Meeting Minutes Oct. 14, 2009

Present: Barbara Dolan, Kathy Lewis (staff), Rebekah Braslow, Frank Pond, Meredith Conn (staff), Betsy Fechalos, Warren Bakker, Mike Charley (staff), Jim Vitalo (growers' liaison), Melissa Wittenberg (chair), Nancy Fjortoft

Absent/Excused: Sampada Dali, Jeff Petertil (church liaison), Gail Grabowski, Chris Mitchell

1. The meeting was called to order by Melissa Wittenberg at 7:06PM.
2. Non-Agenda Public Comment
 - A. There was no public comment.
3. Approval of September 2009 meeting minutes
 - A. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. Budget Report
 - A. M. Charley presented the Fund Expense & Budget Report to the Commission, which included what we have spent so far and what we have left for the rest of the season. He indicated that any upcoming Farm Visits should be submitted through the normal process detailing reasons for visit and costs. The projected budget for next year is \$18,000.00
5. Chairperson's Report
 - A. M. Wittenberg passed around Committees and Special Events for next season and asked the commissioners to sign up for the required number. She will also mail the 2010 Work Plan to all the commissioners. She will do the scheduling for Caring Carrots for next year.
6. Special Events
 - A. M. Wittenberg announced plans for the Stone Soup event scheduled for October 31st. are being finalized. She went to Green Home Experts and we will be using only combustible spoons and cups.
 - B. Dolan reported the Growers/Friends/Commissioner's Luncheon went well and she, as well as the participants, enjoyed the Alpine Food Subs. It was also noted clean-up was much faster and easier as the sandwiches were all individually wrapped. It was also noted we should have two commissioners for this event.
7. Manager's Report
 - A. M. Conn expressed concern that she has not been able to make all the farm visits this year that are needed for good quality control. She also discussed next year's 35th Anniversary of the Market and asked commissioners to think about what can be done to celebrate this occasion.
8. Church Liaison-Absent, no report

9. Grower's Liaison

A. J. Vitalo passed around a book entitled "Well-Preserved by Eugenia Bone which gives recipes and techniques for canning small batches of food.

10. Merchandise & Sales Committee Report

A. There was some discussion about having reusable coffee mugs for sale next season.

11. PR Committee Report

A. B. Fechalos indicated there will be an ad coming up in the Wednesday Journal for Stone Soup/Closing Day of the Market.

12. New Business

A. None

13. Old Business

A. We received one positive response about extending the hours of the Market for the month of May and no negative responses.

14. Confirm next meeting date-November 11, 2009-Room 101 (might change)

15. Adjourned at 8:31PM.

Minutes recorded by B. Dolan