

Saturday Market Board Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2015

Attendance: Paulette Richards (Chair), Dave Lee, Alex Lanham, Paula Gourley, Maggie Quinlan, Colleen Bauman, Anna Lawrence, Willy Gibboney      Excused: David Hascall

Guests: Teresa Pitzer, Deb Schussler, Bonnie Boone, Lynn Brown, Alan Pointer

Staff: Kimberly Cullen, Kim Still      Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Introductions: Members were asked to tell their farthest place reached and something amazing about it.

Teresa: Haines, Alaska: you can't hitchhike north in September; Willy: Australia in the 1970's: hordes of guys with brooms cleaning up before 7:00 am; Deb: Middle Europe: Charlemagne's tomb showed he was only 4 ft. tall; Bonnie: Canada had big leeches; Anna: Norway on a musk ox farm where it got light at 3:30 am. Colleen: Edmonton, stuck in the Greyhound station on Christmas Eve. Lynn: St. Vincent in the Grenadines: a tree loaded with free mangoes; Maggie: highest point the Three Sisters where she found fossilized obsidian. Alan: McAllen Texas: saw an airplane dropping bags of marijuana. Paula: Paris and Algeria, saw an oasis with Berber girls in colorful dress and ate dates and bread; Kim: China where everything was amazing; Alex: LSD trip with a glowing tree; Dave: Springfield with Shelley; Diane: Australia, where she saw 32 species of birds and had to figure out which way the plane was going home with the weather, sunsets, etc. Kimberly: Brazil, Carnival experiences. Paulette: Europe in the late 70's, weaving shop in Greece making silk thread from worms she saw.

Announcements: There will be an election in approximately one month. Three positions will be open. Anna Lawrence and Colleen Bauman are at the end of their second terms and cannot run again, and David Hascall is eligible to run again. Candidate statements are due May 27.

Anna will not be attending the June meeting so this is her last one. Paula reports a cautiously optimistic health update. Colleen reported on Bryon Hummel's progress and noted that a meal train had been organized as well as a fund for donations at the OCF office.

Pressing Member Issues: None.

Agenda Review: New Business: Take off the item about fall weather as it hasn't gone to the Food Court Committee yet.

\*\*\*Motion: Approve the agenda as amended (Colleen/Alex) All in favor 7-0-0

Minutes Approval:

\*\*\*Motion: Accept the minutes of the last meeting. (Alex/Paula) All in favor 7-0-0

Administrative Report: Kimberly reported that all in all there was a good kickoff to our retail year. There are 397 total members to date. Staff-related news is that overall staff performance is good. Raises were given to six hourly employees and the Board approved raises to the two salaried employees. Evaluations were scheduled for the site and info booth staff so they can get a chance to get and give feedback. The office position will be official this week. The De-escalation training was a new opportunity from the Chamber of Commerce

and two info staff people found it successfully. The other staff intends to attend the next one. Colleen added that White Bird offers a “Help Book” with networks and references that SM might like to buy and OCF offers De-escalation trainings as well.

There was an injury to a Food Court member’s employee from a fence in the wind. The problem has been fixed and a check of the insurance showed that liability only extends to third parties and does not cover members, staff, or volunteers. Member’s employees are covered by the member’s Workers Comp policy.

The EPD is putting additional personnel into the Courthouse Plaza during Market hours and they have made arrests each week for various crimes. Our hope is that they will be working on unpermitted sales in the future. There has been some shoplifting on the Park Blocks and in one case there was subsequent identification of the perpetrator but the vendor involved decided not to press charges. In the future, it appears that it would be best to press charges when possible, as that carries weight in the cooperative effort to eliminate the criminal activity. The risks and time commitment of the member in the prosecution process will be studied so that more information can be provided to members about what to expect. A question was asked about prosecution by the SM organization instead of the individual member.

The County will be buying new fences for the FSP and won’t be using the SM fences. Selling them or finding another use will be studied as we don’t have room to store them.

Dogs on site have been increasing. LCFM is also noticing an increase. Staff and Security have been briefed on the latest ADA guidelines about service dogs and Kimberly will ask the City to implement local rules to allow event organizers to ask owners to show proof of license for their service animal, and to require owners to identify service animals. The approach of our hired security to dog owners will be adjusted when necessary. It has been in discussion at the City to implement a “no dogs” ordinance in the Downtown Activity Zone or Core. [A question was asked during the report if a sign can be posted on the FSP that says dogs are not allowed (in the hopes that this will assist the EPD in enforcing regulations)? Kimberly will check into this.]

In the first month, we’ve sold nearly a quarter of the sand bags purchased. Sixty-eight percent of the expenses have been recouped with a contribution from the City of half the total bag order cost, which went directly into restoring the savings which had been used to pay for the bags. The costs are being covered by the sale prices.

SM’s contract with the City includes five programs relating to private commerce on public property. The Annual Report was given and showed a net income for the city. The next contract will be signed in July or August and re-negotiated at that time.

There have been some recent issues about trade name violations and the process has been started for discouragement/enforcement by our attorney or by us (based on his or his staff’s advice). Our rights are likely limited to in-state violations.

A LCFM vendor has asked if he can stroll in our Market with a cart after 3:00 pm when LCFM is closed. He would pay the \$50 membership fee but earn no points for the short day. This would

be on a trial basis. After discussion it was agreed to try it without giving special preference to the member over other strolling vendors.

Kimberly provided some information about the minimum wage. There are several legislative efforts to raise it and members are asked to research and think about the issue for future Board discussion.

A member letter requests reconsideration of the ban on pipes. The Standards Committee plans to discuss it at the August meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in August) after the OCF to see what types of problems they faced (if any). The member will be notified. The ban on paraphernalia was instituted by a vote of the membership and was not just in regard to the legality issue but also the Market image as a family-friendly marketplace.

\*\*\*Motion: Accept the Admin Report (Colleen/Anna) All in favor 7-0-0.

Willy as the Timekeeper reminded the group that the budgeted time is being exceeded and that limiting comments or budgeting more accurately would help keep the meeting within limits.

Advertising Update: Kim reported that SM got a lot of publicity in April and the new I Spy contest is resulting in a jump in all statistics even without a lot of people playing. More followers are being added to all of the social media platforms and the idea seems fun. It makes Market seem like a lively, happening place with new things and focuses on products in a new way. To participate people just post a photo with the hashtag # I Spy; no purchase necessary.

\*\*\*Motion: Accept Kim's update. (Colleen/Paula) All in favor 7-0-0.

Treasurer's Report: Maggie reported that there is a net cash balance in the black, mostly because of member fees.

\*\*\*Motion: Approve the Treasurer's Report. (Anna/Dave) All in favor 7-0-0.

Committee Reports: Standards: Lynn reported on the April 15 meeting. A member responded to several notices of concern regarding the Maker/Seller expectation. After extensive review her products were not approved on the grounds that she only did about 30% of the sewing herself. It was a difficult discussion but the vote was decisive. Some Belt Buckles were not approved as they required more handwork. A new member submitted some objects made with a 3-D printer. None were accepted but the reasons were that commercial images were used as templates instead of original ones. If additional work was applied the items might be accepted in the future. The Board examined the items and discussed the use of CNC and 3-D printing machines: handwork is required on machined items. A bodyworker was told to be licensed before offering his services.

The Committee asked for a specific motion regarding the language clarification they recommended.

\*\*\*Motion: Accept the Standards Committee recommendation for the language of: Any current active market member or immediate family member listed as an additional seller/helper may join the Standards Committee. (Colleen/Alex)

The Board discussed the Belt Buckle decision suggesting that when a vote is close the objects might be brought to the Board but in this case the committee felt that the member was agreeable to improve the objects and the decision wasn't a problem. Applicants are always told that they can appeal decisions to the Board.

The Board also discussed objections to the removal of a member after 19 years of membership. It was an uncomfortable decision and followed decisions about other members in the past who left under protest. Holding artists to the Maker/Seller rule is not always simple but the Committee felt they gave the member ample opportunity to comply or offer willingness to comply. Perhaps a better process could be developed to honor the member for their years of development and keep a list of members who have moved to larger opportunities, even a card to thank them or an article in the newspaper to highlight their products. The door was left open to the member to find a way to return and the space held until May 31<sup>st</sup> before reserving it to a different member.

\*\*\*Motion: Accept the Standards recommendations and report. (Colleen/Dave) Motion passes 5-2-0 with Alex and Paula voting against in protest of the member's removal.

Holiday Market: Deb reported that the Opening Weekend Art Bag promo will not be continued this year. There will be a scavenger hunt with an Elf theme or other Elf-themed promotion. The annual project will be decorating the lobby and front entrance. Gift tags from Holiday Market might be ordered. Next meeting they will elect officers and discuss the work task policies.

\*\*\*Motion: Accept the Holiday Market committee report (Alex/Willy) All in favor 7-0-0.

Marketing Street Team: Colleen reported on the two meetings of this group formed to support Market promotions, act as a clearing house for promotional ideas from members, and increase volunteer support for Market through promotional projects. They outlined agreements for the team which included rotating facilitators and scribes to train members and develop skills, an agenda template, and a statement of intent: Envisioning a successful Market community: by studying the image and perception of the Saturday Market, by facilitating membership participation in the creation and implementation of promo projects, by evaluating each project's effectiveness. Suggested projects included a souvenir booklet, a summer poster, welcome packets and community outreach by a presence at other events and craft demonstrations. Many ideas were generated. Anna showed a mockup of a possible booklet featuring members and products. They will meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 11:00 am.

Member Recruitment: Colleen reported that the committee has not met but will soon, to assess, set goals, and map a plan. Alex and Paula volunteered to help.

LCFM Quarterly Meeting Report: Paulette reported on the meeting of Managers and Board Chairs. They discussed signs, dogs, and the FSP. There are meetings being held regarding the FSP that don't include the Markets but Kimberly has let it be known that Market would like to be part of the problem-solving process around the table. They discussed the possibility of a bike valet in the space, and other ideas that have been considered. Tuesday Market began May 5 and plans for that were confirmed, with limited co-selling by Saturday Market members. There will also be a Thursday Market on the usual LCFM Saturday site. There is another level of payment if they go over 15 booths on Tuesday so they don't want to add too

many SM vendors, but there are a few spaces available especially at the beginning and end of the season. They will celebrate 100 years of Farmer's Markets on that site on Sunday August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Friends of the Farmers Market has a grant and hopes to do several promotions. They have a presence on the first and third Saturdays of each month. SM informed them of our promotions in the next quarter and co-marketing Holiday Market was discussed. Promoting how many products are shared by members of both Markets would be interesting, e.g. farmers with food vendors, etc.

#### Old Business: Booth Weights Policy:

\*\*\*Motion: Accept the Booth Weights Policy with the amendment of the word "must" changed to "should" in Section IV. (Colleen/Alex) All in favor 7-0-0.

Discussion: Those who have benches use those to secure their booths. Could something be added such as "or equivalent" to allow exceptions? This might be premature, as there is not yet a City policy. There may be some flexibility in the City's policy, or it may be more strict than ours, but SM needs to have something in place. The sidewalls gap is not a popular idea but the requirements with sidewalls are for much more weight, so this one is prudent. The burden of proof will be on the vendor to show that their booth is safe before any exceptions will be considered. Most other venues require weights. Tying to benches raises the possibility of damaging City property. Winds seem to be increasing so it seems prudent to get into the habit of bringing weights.

Nonprofits: due to the late hour the members didn't feel there was time for this discussion. In the meantime non-profits who wish to sell will not be booked if possible.

\*\*\*Motion: Table the non-profit policy for SM/HM until the next meeting. (Alex/Dave) All in favor 7-0-0. Teresa will prepare a display of the two committee recommendations.

Meeting Evaluation: Paulette asked everyone to close their eyes and relax for a minute or so. Members appreciated that transition.