

Saturday Market Board Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2013

Attendance: Colleen Bauman (Chair), Deb Huntley, Teresa Pitzer, Ritta Dreier, Owen Van Hooser, Jan Bullock, Elizabeth Eisenman, Caroline Dunn, Sue Hunnel. Excused: Anna Lawrence

Staff: Beth Little, Kim Still

Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Guests: Lynn Brown, Daniel Conan Young, Deb Schussler, Jen Hoover, Alley Valkyrie

Introductions and Announcements: Sue, Jan, and Elizabeth may have to leave early. Sue got into OCF! Alley is heading up a sock drive for Occupy Medical. Socks (used in good condition are fine) can be dropped off at her booth, Helios office, or let her know and she will pick them up. A reminder that Occupy Medical is at the Park Blocks on Sundays and always needs volunteers.

Agenda Review: add Market Etiquette to Old Business, postpone Sabbatical Policy to June. Beth can email interested members with the draft policy before the discussion of the Sabbatical Policy, and Board members will receive it in advance of the June meeting.

***Motion: Approve the amended Agenda (Teresa/Elizabeth) All in favor 8-0-0

Pressing Member Issues: none

Announcement of Elections: There will be an election in one month, June 8, and three positions will be open. Two of our current Board members, Sue and Teresa, can run again, and Ritta will finish her second term, and will be ineligible to run again in June.

Approval of Minutes: meeting of April 3, 2013

***Motion: Approve the minutes (Teresa/Jan) All in favor

Committee Reports: Holiday Market: Jen Hoover gave the report of the April 10 meeting. Beth is researching shared booths. Many ideas were discussed regarding new marketing strategies and decorating ideas, though budget will determine which, if any, could be implemented. Some of the ideas include: new poster treatments, a video with moving images and professional production, "Home for the Holidays," more ways for members to promote themselves (e.g. emailable PDF postcard), improve customer loyalty, attract more high-end artists and shoppers, allow members to pay to be on the poster or in an ad, or a booklet previewing the attractions that members could buy into and distribute, "Handcrafting excellence since 1970," "I found it at Holiday Market." Better curb appeal, sprucing up the food court with new tablecloths, and repainting the stage backdrop are other ideas. There was Board discussion encouraging the committee to discuss ideas but not plan major changes in a tough budget year. Ideas for meeting process were suggested. The time of the Sept. 11th meeting was changed. Next meeting May 8, 4 pm.

***Motion: Accept the Holiday Market Committee report. (Deb H./ Owen) All in favor.

Standards Committee: Teresa reported on the April 17 meeting. She reminded people that Sue Theolass is selling raffle tickets for the Spring Fling (May 4). Fifteen members were screened, with an additional ten today. In full-committee screenings, cookies, feather hairclips, painted wooden signs and accessories, tinctures, salves and soaps, and handpainted glass items that were not to be used for food were approved, while some makers of jewelry, cigar-box guitars, and wool-wrapped soaps were asked to resubmit with suggestions to adjust their products to fit our Market. Beth reported on a personal issue between two members. A suggestion was made to add “no smoking” to the buskers’ guidelines.

The Body Care guidelines were revised to add: **“Body Care is comprised of many product lines. Each time a new product line is introduced, it is necessary to have that product line screened. Examples of product lines are eyeliner, lipstick, lotions or bath salts, etc.”** Members making these products will be notified and can work with the committee to make sure all product lines are covered.

Art Reproductions and the gicleé process were discussed and further research will be done. A meeting evaluation was added to their committee process.

***Motion: Accept the Standards Committee minutes (Jan/Owen) 7-0-1 (Elizabeth) Motion passes.

LCFM Expansion: The Board was updated on recent meetings with LCFM representatives, sorting out the possibilities and discussing their potential effects. Nothing official has been advanced from LCFM. Their membership voted on moving to Obie’s property, and the results seemed to not support a move. Colleen has been in communication with their Board Chair, and both organizations seem committed to discussing any changes in the planning stages. They may continue to explore using 8th St. for their expansion, and our official position is that we do not support the closing of 8th St. We have advanced the potential use of the Pearl St. parking lot, the use of SW Park St., and the use of Willamette St between 7th and 8th. Colleen has proposed a working group co-chaired by herself and their Board Chair. They would work out a meeting template to proceed with attempting to find a neighborhood solution. The goal would be to avoid a public fight over the street closure issue without sufficient attempts at solutions first. Their Board is composed of half advisors from the community, and is structured differently from ours as far as membership involvement is concerned. A working group would include member input from both organizations.

Beth explained the traffic compliance for closed lanes. Board members expressed their concerns and thoughts about the issue. Concerns and ideas included emergency access on 8th St, safety issues, loading and unloading issues, plans if they do move, possibilities for the butterfly lot (building temporary but substantial staging so that it could be used). County property and city money may not go together.

A working group would provide us with the opportunity for input that we have not yet been provided, as the city had promised at the close of their Feb. 2011 task force regarding spending the city money allocated for site improvements. We could also appeal to the city directly, continuing to ask for a

neighborhood solution. We want to manage our message both to the public and to the organizations involved, so we are not quite ready to take it to the media or City Council. We don't know their timeline for changes. This is viewed by them as a transition move toward their goal to have a 30,000 sq. ft. permanent building. They may be proposing only closing the portion of 8th between Park and Willamette, which would leave Park St still available for traffic but still cut off access to the Parcade. The City could notify us of street closure at any time. We may not have time to discuss things with both Boards only meeting monthly. Board members were not opposed to exploring the use of SW Park by farmers. There would be many adjustments to be made. Neighboring businesses could be surveyed and invited to participate. Letters could be compiled and be ready to submit to the media or other bodies. We assured the City that we would manage the space if the farmers left and asked how we could help but there has not been a response. Beth detailed an incident with a lost child just this past week, which was on the LCFM site but was handled by our Manager and our Security. . There are concerns that LCFM can't efficiently manage more space, at the level of management that our Market has proved to require (security, services, etc.) with their small staff. We need to express to them that we can't afford to experiment with our income, both collectively and individually. Many of our members live on a financial edge that is critical to their lives. We must have a community solution. Decisions are being made on the management level of the City, not on the Council. It is vital that we stand as the experts at running our Market. We should have a concise list of the suggestions proposed tonight for the working group to refer to while they make a firm plan of what we can and can't do.

Elizabeth left.

***Motion: Direct the Board Chair and Manager to arrange and constitute a Working Group to meet with the farmers' half of the Working Group to forge a community solution. (Teresa/Owen) All in favor 7-0-0

Proposed Office Move: Beth showed the footprint of the offices at 30 E. Broadway. She has been looking at all available space since about 2006. We've been here 21 years. Our rent almost doubled, our space needs a lot of improvement, and our office location has become surrounded by bars. We get a lot of walk-ins (not members) which waste staff time. There is no opportunity for confidentiality or privacy for any of the five staff members who use the space. She has been working with a realtor and has gotten a good price, and the offices need little improvement to be ready for us. We're a great tenant and would be able to sign a long-term lease, and they have offered a 3-5 year lease with slight increases in the later years to cover increased utility costs. It would be closer to the Park Blocks. It would cost somewhere around \$1200 per month with utilities included. There's no kitchen. We would not be able to take our round table, which will be missed terribly, but Growers Market could buy it, perhaps. We would try to move the third week of May, and then have a big garage sale with what's left. We would definitely keep the archives but would try not to add any separate storage places. Beth has applied to the city for a low-interest loan.

***Motion: Approve the move to 30 E. Broadway (Jan/Teresa) All in favor.

Jan left.

Administrative Report: We have 427 members. Beth reported on staff performance after four Markets. Joe was injured but has not missed any work time. We had a liability insurance audit today. There were four member requests for which she recommended approval (Carol DeFazio, Shawna Holmes, Beverly Baca, Paula Gourley).

***Motion: Accept the Admin report with recommendations (Deb H./ Owen) All in favor 6-0-0

Old Business: Meeting Etiquette: Jan typed up some guidelines for meeting behavior and made little table tents of them. Good job, Jan!

Board Bylaws Revisions Removing Alternate: Attached to the Board Packet is a copy of our bylaws showing the changes. A paragraph will be removed from Article IV, Section 3 (entire section) and the first sentence of Section 7 would be removed, and the second sentence altered to read: "Vacancies are filled by a vote of the board of directors." Changes would be effective July 1, 2013

***Motion: Accept the changes to the bylaws to take effect July 1, 2013. (Teresa/Deb H.) All in favor.

Meeting Evaluation: This could be the last meeting in our space! One person felt they could have used more self-control. Skills were appreciated. The time limits on items are helpful. Happy Birthday to Saturday Market next week!

Adjourned for closed session regarding personnel. 7:20 pm.