Saturday Market Board Meeting Minutes       December 1, 2021


Staff: JJ Hendrix, Vanessa Roy, AJ Jackson (in office)

Guests: Sarah Bush, Rachell Coe, Colleen Bauman, Nome May, Damian McDonald, Dru Marchbanks, Bekah Zeimetz, Emily Belleheumer (partially) (all on zoom)

Introductions and Announcements: JJ announced her resignation as Interim Manager, effective after Holiday Market is wrapped. Bekah and Nome announced that they are running for the Board (as is Damian.) Diane reminded people that free books are available to Board members through the Ford Family Foundation. Roberta’s Rules of Order and Facilitator’s Guide to Participatory Decision-Making are particularly helpful to our work.

Pressing Member Concerns: none

Board Educational Minute: Sarah spoke about Facilitation Tips. She suggested taking time to prepare and plan ahead of the meeting, collecting the reports (and assigning people to deliver them) and reading the Board packet. Stay on time, using a timekeeper for best results. Rotating responsibilities increases accountability and the number of people who are trained and available for the tasks. Other tasks can include sharing the mission when needed or coordinating food for the meetings. Creating the agendas is a key organizational tool. Encouraging different opinions and making sure everyone has a chance to speak are important to making creative solutions and good decisions.

Agenda Approval: Add an Exec Session at the end. Add Review Market attendance policy for 2022 to New Business, also Member requirements to New Business.

***Motion: Approve the agenda as amended (Willy/Shannon) 6-0-0

Minutes Approval: Minutes of November 3rd. As they were sent out late, members took a few minutes to review them.

***Motion: Accept the minutes for November (Willy/Sarah) 6-0-0

Administrative Report: JJ reported that Saturday Market concluded Nov. 13th. It was a challenging year but members did well overall. Nothing new can be reported on the 8th St. project. Holiday Market is going well with all permits in place and work tasks slowly filling in. DPI Security is doing a great job enforcing masking. The Family Photo is on December 5th at 9:50am in Holiday Hall. The Pottery Smash will be held on December 19th in Holiday Hall at 8:30am. The Kareng Fund has a booth set up in the Food Court, and the donation baskets are filling. The raffle will be held on December 24th at noon.

The Annual Meeting is on December 12th in Holiday Hall. There will be a Zoom link available to the members who cannot attend in person. Board Elections have been moved back to Sunday, December 12th. We have received two candidate statements, with five more Members interested. Artisans from other markets are responding to the call to join us at the Holiday Market. The Standards Co-chairs and staff have worked out a system for enrolling them. We hope to start having them selling
the weekend of December 4th. All outside artisans will first become Saturday Market Members before selling.

***Motion: Approve the Administrative report (Willy/Vince) 6-0-0

Membership Report: AJ reported Hm seems to be going well, with lots of Visa checks to process. Members are adjusting to Holiday Hall with a little moving booths around. More will be filling in every week as artisans from other markets are responding to recruiting, and are being screened by Teresa, Chuck and Jessie. Rachell spoke to feeling positive about HH. More signage will be added and people can be directed to it. About 75-80 booths are still available out of 333 but booking is still happening. By next year it will likely be full as more members return after the pandemic.

***Motion: Approve the Membership report (Willy/Vince) 6-0-0

Advertising Report: Vanessa reported that the viral video is still increasing in viewers, which increases our social media followers and engagement as well. We’ve gotten good press from the RG, Weekly, KVAL and KMTR, and social media posts are positive. People report feeling safe. The reader board at LEC is still broken but they are planning to repair it soon. She is posting about 20-30 posts each weekend, focusing on new members to draw fresh attention. More ads are coming and there will be a press release about the last two days (23rd and 24th.)

***Motion: Approve the Advertising report (Gary/Willy) 6-0-0

Treasurer’s Report: Rachell gave the report on the October 2021 financials. Because Holiday Market enrollment was delayed by the location decision, most of the income was also delayed resulting in some numbers that appeared to be negative. However, the trends are not negative and will be reversed with the November and December reports as the funds are collected. A lot of new members were added and expenses are still trimmed and under control. There are over 300 spaces in the HM rather than the approximately 200 used last year in the Park Blocks, so the income will be greater by far. Booth fees still due total about $84,000. There was some explanation of how the reports are compiled. The budget is still in the format of 2019, before the pandemic, so that comparisons can be done to a normal budget and keep us on track for when things return to full attendance. Saturday Market is looking for a new Treasurer as Rachell is moving away. She will still be able to provide support but having someone in town would be best. Thank you so much for your capable work, Rachell!

***Motion: Accept the Treasurer’s report (Willy/Gary) 6-0-0

Committee and Task Force Reports: none

Old Business: none

New Business: Food Court Update: Colleen advised the Board that the Food Court and Standards Committee Co-chairs will be meeting on the 16th to work on plans for restoring the Food Court next season. There are several items to consider, such as the attendance policy, and they will make recommendations. Other items will include the point system, a deadline to declare returning status, space equity and safety, supporting amenities such as tables and chairs, and vaccine requirements.
February Board Meeting: It will be necessary to check in on several items so a meeting will be scheduled Feb. 2nd. Diane will be helping to prepare the Board packet if needed.

Attendance Policy: The requirements for attendance were suspended in 2020 and 2021 but if the pandemic eases up it might be best to restore them. Reserve spaces depend on attendance points, and new members struggle to get reserve booths without the requirements. There are differences between Food and Craft Booth requirements, so equity needs to be considered. It is early to make a decision but discussing it might prepare for a decision.

Under the old policy, Food Booths are generally required to attend, but may miss twice without penalty, and up to six times with a $25 penalty for each absence. Reserved craft booth members are required to attend 12 times during the season. The ability to take temporary reserve booths was used to fill the Market when a lot of reserve members were unable to attend. Maybe making a plan for when the pandemic ends would work, to implement if it actually stops affecting member attendance. Leaves of Absence have been utilized but they are limited to two without Board approval. We want people to return and also want to fill the Market with people who feel safe to sell. It was promised that no one would be penalized for not feeling safe to attend.

A Points Equity Task Force would be the best way to fully address all of the aspects of this complex issue. Please let the office know if you are willing to serve on it.

Membership Requirements: It was proposed that those members who choose to sell on the FSP not be granted full membership privileges in SM/HM, since they are selling at a competing event. There wasn’t general support for the proposal.

Meeting Evaluation: eliminated for lack of time. Thanks to all for attending and participating.

***Motion: Adjourn (Shannon/Willy) 6-0-0