

Attendance: Anna Lawrence, Willy Gibboney, Shannon Lee-Hutson, Sarah Bast, Nome May, Gary Becker, Vince LaRochelle, Bekah Zeimetz, Damian McDonald Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Staff: JJ Hendrix, Vanessa Roy, AJ Jackson

Other Participants: Mary Newell, Teresa Pitzer, Dave Sommerville, Barbara Graham-Adams, Colleen Bauman

Introductions and Announcements: Upcoming meetings: HM Debrief 2-3,2:00; Points Equity TF 2-9, 1:00 pm; Food Court and Standards Co-chairs 2-10, 2pm ; Budget Committee 2-17, 1:00 pm ; New Member Orientations, March 2, 15, 30.

Pressing Member Concerns: Dave Sommerville outlined some of his concerns with a vaccination mandate for the outdoor market. Major points included medical privacy and freedom, blaming the unvaccinated for all safety concerns, and that it wouldn't solve the safety issues as customers and others won't be vaccinated. He has participated for 35 years in what he thought was a liberal, progressive, creative community that seeks alternative solutions. He wants to speak for others who have the same beliefs.

Agenda Review and Approval: Add to New Business: World Games July 15-24, 2022. Add 8th St to Old Business.

***Motion: Approve the agenda (Willy/Gary) 8-0-0

Minutes Approval: There was a request for clarification in the Appointments to Personnel Committee section. ***Motion: Approve the January Board minutes (Shannon/Willy) 8-0-0

Old Business: 8th Street: Diane reported that the Register Guard printed misleading information but that the City website (recently updated) indicates that the Park Blocks part of the project was put off until spring 2023. An email is in to the Project Manager to clarify. [Edit: an email was received the next day and the project was put off to spring 2023.]

Attendance Requirement: The attendance requirements were waived for 2020 and 2021 and the Food Court booth points were frozen at 2019 levels (this did not apply to craft booths.) Motions that were related to this discussion were shared. Leaves of Absence freeze points at the time they are taken. Generally staff can grant the first LOA and subsequent ones come to the Board for consideration. In 2020 about 40 LOAs were taken and in 2021 about 30 were taken. About half were taken both years. Some members did not take formal LOAs. They are only really necessary for reserve booths. As long as the membership fee is paid, points continue to accrue with attendance. Without the attendance requirements no one was disqualified from their reserve space for not attending, unless they let their membership lapse. Payment for the reserve fees was still required. For the 2022 season a motion was passed to require reserve payments from all members who want to retain their reserve spaces, regardless of their selling status.

***Motion: Reinstate the 12 Saturday Market attendance requirements for all reserve members effective April 2nd, 2022 (Gary/Vince) 8-0-0

Vaccination: Vaccinations or negative tests were required for all participants (except the public) at the indoor HM in 2021. At issue is whether or not to require vaccinations or tests for the members who will be participating in the Park Blocks season in 2022. Masks were also required at all times, at all markets held in 2020 and 2021.

Major points of discussion included medical privacy, the history of Market requirements, and many details about vaccination and transmission theories. The great majority of members are vaccinated but the survey showed that about one third were not in favor of requirements for the outdoor market. Masks have proven to be effective and vaccines are seeming to become less effective with the new variants.

Most still favored the use of masks and sensible actions based on trust (such as staying home when sick) and individual responsibility. Some felt vulnerable to the unvaccinated and unmasked, and there was support for keeping the office closed to drop-in visitors. Following CDC, federal, state and county directives and laws will still be the general policy. Most did not support different requirements for food booths even though less distancing is possible in the food court. The Food Court and Standards Co-Chairs can discuss mitigation for the particular food booth issues.

Several motions were worked through and rescinded before the final wording was settled.

***Motion: All vendors must wear masks and any person with more than one person in the booth needs to show them proof of vaccination for the safety of all the people in that booth. (Willy/Shannon) Rescinded.

***Motion: All vendors must wear approved by CDC masks if they are in a booth at the Market. (Willy/Shannon) Rescinded.

***Motion: All members must wear a mask made of solid material over the nose and mouth while at Saturday Market. Face shields are allowed with a solid mask. (Bekah/Shannon) 8-0-0

***Motion: Saturday Market will not require vaccinations for members for outdoor Saturday Market 2022 (Nome/Gary) Rescinded.

***Motion: Saturday Market requires vaccinations for members for the outdoor Saturday Market 2022 (Nome/Gary) 1 (Vince)-5-2 (Shannon and Willy). Motion fails.

New Business: Bylaws Revisions: These are for Board members to study over the next month and vote on at a subsequent meeting. Wording is generally taken from ORS 65, state requirements for nonprofit organizations.

Music Committee: Mary is interested in forming a group to discuss the complaints repeatedly made about the music, mainly at Holiday Market, to see if some problem-solving can lower the amount of complaints. She would like to include musicians, staff, and interested members and does not plan to interfere with the employees who work with and book the music. They could be staff liaisons to the group.

Members did not feel that a standing committee would be the appropriate structure and suggested a task force, work group, summit, town hall, or other type of gathering. Musicians, as contractors, are stakeholders but not members of the Market. Perhaps finding other interested members and making a plan of action to bring back to the Board will start the process.

World Games 2022: deferred to the next meeting due to time.

***Motion: Adjourn (Shannon/Gary) 8-0-0 7:50 pm

