

Attendance: In the room: Nome May, Bekah Zeimetz, Dani Marks-Fife Ito, Candice Westberg, Maia Bowers On the zoom: Doug Robertson, Julia Garretson, Jennifer Hoberg Excused: Gary Spetzler

Staff: Shannon Lee-Hutson, Sonia Ostendorf

Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Other Participants: In the room: Craig Butler, Anna Lawrence, Willy Gibboney, Jessie Gustafson, Michael Bertotti, Ram Shucart On the zoom: Jim, Carol and Jacob Young, Gerardo Fuenzalida, Heather Robbins-Hinton, Richard Harnsongkram, Shellana Moller

Introductions and Announcements: Introductions around the room/zoom. Diane McWhorter resigned as Secretary of Saturday Market. This will be her last meeting and set of minutes in the position.

Agenda Review and Approval: Defer the meeting recording policy proposal item.

***Motion: Approve the agenda with the amendment (Bekah/Maia) 7-0-0

Pressing Member Concerns: Nome read the procedures for addressing Member Issues.

Craig Butler: Craig pointed out that Portland Saturday Market modeled themselves on our market, and we also seem to share dysfunctional websites. He would like to see the organization address:

- Make a defined plan to figure out what needs to be done, how it will be done, with estimated costs
- Collect data to show what the weekly percentage sales are to see if the website would improve them
- Build in some website analytics to help people figure out what is being searched for, what is selling, how much of it is available and what they could make to fill the gaps

Willy Gibboney: Willy read a letter regarding Standards. He feels the job of the committee is to parse out the nuances of “the Maker is the Seller.” He has worked for several months on the committee and feels that most of the recommendations they send to the Board are rejected. He feels that without more Board support he is wasting his volunteer time.

Barbara Thill: She is requesting an exception to the policy of attending at least once per month, for this season, although she plans to attend the twelve times, citing medical issues.

***Motion: Move that Barbara Thill be allowed to abstain from the monthly requirement as long as she meets the annual requirement for 2024 (Candice/Maia) 7-0-0

Michael Bertotti: Michael spoke to the many ways members join, by money, creating, volunteering, promoting, but he feels when the members need the Market the most it is closed for Holiday Market, which doesn't serve all the members. Holiday Hall developed as a way for lower-income members to be inside after a few tries at accommodating them outdoors. He would like the organization to find a way for people to continue to sell without the high fees: in the parking lot, on the Park Blocks, or in some of the smaller rooms at LEC. He feels that Market was designed to serve everyone and everyone should be accommodated.

Members suggested a scholarship program, determining if the unmet needs are accessibility or finances, using the DAZ permit to sell at FSP, or in the space outside Holiday Hall to the east, which is an underused parking lot.

James, Carol and Jacob Young, The Hat People: In a letter to the Board and conversations on the phone with Shannon, the Young family sought to appeal a Standards Committee decision that they could not continue to sell after 2024 due to the use of employees and contract workers. They explained details of their process and estimated that they still do 100% of the designing, selling and 75-80% of the construction of their hats, only using sewists for specific parts of the sewing. They have been members for 46 years and Jacob is the second generation of their family business. They feel their significant contribution is clear and distinguishes their product as handmade and theirs. They felt that the Committee did not get enough input from them before making the decision, and that they did not know they were even being considered by the committee.

The committee felt that they did due diligence by viewing the website and having staff contact the Youngs, and pointed out that James is the member and is not the person selling. They felt the Hat People had outgrown the market and were no longer really crafting the hats themselves.

The committee did receive a Notice of Concern which Shannon handled in the usual procedure but as the Youngs live out of town they were not available for a studio visit or an appearance at the Committee meeting (OCF also compromised the timing of the steps of the process.) They asked that at minimum, Jacob could become a member of SM in his own name.

After lengthy discussion and two straw votes to determine readiness to make a decision, the following motion was made:

***Motion: Keep Hat People at the market (Julia/Bekah) 5-0-2 (Maia,Candice)

Approval of Minutes: no changes

***Motion: Accept the Board minutes from July 3, 2024 (Bekah/Dani) 5-0-2 (Candice, Bekah)

Board Education Moment: Maia will continue her report next month. The basic message is to acknowledge other people's situations or feelings.

Treasurer's Report: Heather had connection issues so Nome read the report. The June P&L was attached. Total income was higher in June than in May and expenses were lower than budgeted as expected with the skew in pay periods into May and a delayed LEC contract payment.

***Motion: Accept the Treasurer's report (Doug/Maia) 7-0-0

Administrative Report: Shannon reported that the August 3rd Block Party was successful and customers loved having the streets closed to traffic (32 positive customer comments.) Many things worked out well, with some glitches in loading in and out, and less promotion than anticipated. Community partners were pleased, particularly the sellers on the FSP. Closing the streets will likely be more frequent next season, for additional safety.

There were 241 members selling, with 240 usually a full market, so there weren't many more sellers than usual. Sales reports for members were mixed.

There will be a survey at HM with the recurring question of hours on it, and it will need at least 51% participation to make a decision based on member opinions.

There will be a Town Hall on August 29th about the HM2025 map changes.

Renee requested some time off and that was granted.

***Motion: Accept the Administrative report (Bekah/Maia) 6-0-1 (Julia)

Old Business: 4 x 4 Reserves: Sonia has about 6 or 7 members who use the 4x4s and would love to start reserving them next season since they have the points to get the same ones every week. It is important to have some spaces that are not reserved for low-income members who can't afford that, and for new people who don't have enough points to reserve. Having consistent locations does benefit member businesses, and neighbors tend to form supportive communities as well. There was general support so the Member Fees Task Force will meet and discuss some details to begin the program in 2025.

Food Handler's Cards: Shannon would like Market food booths to require Food Handler's cards for everyone who handles food in their booths. She would like the perception of the public to be that SM asks members to go above and beyond requirements. Some booths do have more than one card, but the County only requires one per booth. The Food Court Committee has discussed this and some owners are reluctant to change their requirements to stronger ones than the County requires, perhaps due to the presentation of the change at the beginning of the season. The county licensing for Temporary Restaurants is rigorous and detailed and some of the booth owners feel it is redundant and up to the County, not the Market, and not allowing a booth to open without the additional compliance feels punitive. The Food Court Committee will continue to discuss the issue. The process is not difficult or expensive.

Committee Reports: Holiday Market Committee: Doug submitted a written report from the July meeting. They deferred discussion of the poster, Guidebook and Elf Game prizes until staff returns in August. They are working on editing the "Helpful HM Hints" pages and discussed plans for the afternoons, such as a Drag Show and photo booth campaign. They worked on what kind of data to gather in an in-person survey and added the survey as a possible work task for members. At the June 28th meeting they discussed schedules and pricing. They are working on ideas for Elf Game prizes with an eye toward keeping the handmade quality of the ornaments with some different items. They chose an artist for the poster/Guidebook cover. They discussed the map changes for 2025 and the Town Hall.

***Motion: Approve the Holiday Market Committee minutes from Friday June 28th (Dani/Maia) 7-0-0

Food Court Committee: Richard reported that the July meeting had low attendance so most items were tabled to the next meeting. At the June meeting they discussed feedback from members who changed spaces, the continuing impacts from trying to fit into 8x12 spaces, and other impacts from the Fire Marshal's changes and subsequent staff decisions. The popup storage on the lawn has benefits and drawbacks. They made a list of considerations for booth owners to think about for the future of the Food court and their space requirements.

***Accept the Food Court Committee meeting minutes for June 18th (Maia/Julia) 7-0-0

Standards Committee: Anna gave the report from the July 31st meeting. They had a guest, Alysha Crist, who spoke about her complex product of Fan Art Magnets. They welcomed two new members, Doug Robertson and Shellana Moller. They discussed upcycling and approved adding "independent/sub-contractors" to the language about employees not in the member's economic unit. They are working on the Food Court Handbook.

The June minutes included a recommendation to the Board to terminate members who use employees outside their economic unit. They would send a letter to members with employees giving them a 6-month or end-of-season warning that they would be terminated unless they would bring to Market only those items they had fully created themselves, possibly involving a studio visit.

They discussed text-only items but did not change the language of the guideline. They discussed how to work with items that are digitally created, requiring members to show their process of creation to determine how much original artwork was involved.

***Motion: Accept the Standards Committee meeting minutes from June 19th (Maia/Doug) 7-0-0

Sustainability Committee: Julia reported on the June and July meetings. They are working with the food court to increase the use of the durable utensils and to think about adding plates and bowls to the program. They are hoping to increase the knowledge of the public about what to compost with signage and announcements from the stage between acts. They discussed plans for the Block Party August 3rd. There will be a kids planting station and other activities. The water stations are up and running to decrease the use of plastic water bottles. There will be a merch tent at the Block Party selling t-shirts, tote bags and utensil kits.

***Motion: Accept the Sustainability meeting minutes from June 12th. (Maia/Dani) 7-0-0

New Business: Volunteer of the Month

***Motion: Nominate Willy Gibboney for Volunteer of the Month for August (Maia/Julia) 7-0-0

Final Round/Meeting Evaluation: Hard meeting, but members are strong and can do it. Appreciate everyone's efforts. Guidelines are supposed to be lighter than rules and regulations and fit the Market members better. Thanks to everyone for their participation.

***Motion: Adjourn (Julia/Maia) 7-0-0 7:42 pm

Executive Session: There was an executive session to discuss the Budget Committee report. They recommended raises in accordance with the increase in minimum wage in July as well as for other staff, in accordance with the recommendations of the Personnel Committee.

***Motion: Accept the Budget Committee recommendation on raises (Maia/Dani) 7-0-0

***Motion: Adjourn (Julia/Bekah) 7-0-0 8:00 pm