

10/1/2011 Portland Farmers' Market Association

Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: Meg Perry Center, Congress St. Portland Maine

Attendance:

Carolyn Snell- Snell Family Farm

Larry Bruns- Hanson Field Flower Farm

Hanne Tierney/Clayton Carter- Cornerstone Farm/Fail Better Farm

Mike Farwell- Uncle's Farm

Jodie Jordan- Alewife's Brook Farm

Daniel Price- Freedom Farm

Sean Pignatello- Swallowtail Farm and Creamery

Mary Ellen & Austin Chadd- Green Spark Farm

Jaime Berhanu- Lalibela Farm

Welcome

1. Discussion of Token System (given by Jaime Berhanu):

- Update of current status

- Discussion of storage/transportation/recordkeeping- how to make these systems work in a more balanced way. Ideas included looking into private rental of a secure storage facility in Portland to store tokens/booth supplies.

- Discussion of long term sustainability ideas: continue to partner with Cultivating Community or work toward fundraising to sustain the program?

- Discussion of Preble Street Outreach and Cooperative Extension/Nutritional Education at market: agreed that any scheduling of outreach or nutritional education needs to be okayed through the Farmers' Market first, and needs to be in line with the mission of the Farmers' Market.

- Discussion of Wholesome Wave coupons/tokens for SNAP Incentives- If this becomes available to the market, we will request tokens instead of paper coupons.

- Discussed a market policy about stolen tokens. Unanimously agreed to maintain that vendors are responsible for lost or stolen tokens, and to add that statement to next year's Token Agreement form.

- Discussion of General Assistance Tokens: if the timing of reimbursement is reasonable, we will consider adding them to the token program for 2012.

3. Discussion of the Farmers' Market's need for a logo: We will consider a community logo contest

4. Discussion of Winter Farmers' Market: as there is an agreement to discontinue a waiting list for the summer market, we will do the same for the winter market. Applicants can reapply each year.

5. Discussion of Raw Milk at the Farmers' Market
6. Scheduling of next Steering Committee Meeting: 11/12/12
7. Minutes taken by Jaime Berhanu, Lalibela Farm