

Portland Farmers Market Association (PFMA) Steering Committee Meeting 3 30 2013
Respectfully submitted M.E. Chadd, 4 12 13.

Attendance:

Jaime Berhanu
Hanne Tierney
Lauren Pignatello
Jodie Jordan
Mary Ellen Chadd
Simon Frost

Insurance Issues/Changes:

- Underwrite PFMA as additional insured on our own farm's liability insurance instead of the City of Portland.
- With the Association, and not the City, managing the market, all the vendors in the market would be required to join the Association, at least on their insurance, not necessarily paying dues or otherwise. If not, those farmers who did not join the Association would not be covered for liability insurance.
- What will the City do about this, since the City is interested in not managing the market due to time and budget in the City Clerks office.

Jaime and Jodie suggest perhaps a letter from the City requesting this change might clarify and resolve any misunderstandings for folks who are not in favor of a farmer-run market at this time?

By Law Changes:

- The City said the market needs a policy as an Association for how vendors are let in and go out.
- By laws says at voting meetings “of members present”, but it means 2/3 of farms present because it is “one farm, one vote”. Since we have been operating with one farm one vote, we need to edit this so it says what we mean.
- Winter application needs updating
- Clarification of who can write checks
- Authority – for example when random folks show up to sell stuff and they are not regular vendors in our market, we need authority to ask them to leave.

Vendor Application Changes, Annual Renewal Changes:

- To continue to be in the market, all vendors will need to be a “member” of the PFMA, though we could decide that dues are optional, this is because all vendors need to be covered under the Association liability policy. All vendors would need to legally supply the PFMA with a copy of their farms' liability policy (as we do now to the City each year, that would switch to the PFMA).
- One Application with the Association (not the city)
- The good thing about the Association's insurance is that it actually provides an extra layer of insurance to all of us: each farm is insured, and also all vendors would be insured under the Association; Currently the City would immediately hold a farmer liable, but with the Association we have extra coverage.

We must collect all vendor's opinions on continuing to pursue separation and this license agreement or not. Hanne is not interested in pursuing this if the majority of vendors in the market are against this. We have to hear what others are thinking and saying, and perhaps we can come to some common ground and agree to improve the market ourselves through the Association, or to drop the subject.