

DURANGO FARMERS MARKET

General Membership Meeting – April 16, 2015

La Plata County Extension Office

The meeting was called to order by President, Dave Banga at 6:35 PM. The full Board was in attendance and introduced themselves as did the members attending. Our new bookkeeper, Lynndee Beller, was introduced and welcomed.

The minutes of the last membership meeting, October 21, 2014, were read by Secretary, Kay James, and approved as read.

Radiance Beals, Treasurer, asked if there were questions about the financial report that had been handed out to the attendees. There was a question about the total assets in 2013 compared to 2014 that Radiance responded to, as well as a few comments. The report was approved as submitted.

President, Dave Banga, reviewed briefly the actions taken by the Board since the last general meeting which included the hiring of our new bookkeeper, giving Market Bucks to Meme Eberspacher in appreciation of her dedicated service as bookkeeper and friend of the Farmers Market for so many years. He reported that the By-laws and Rules and Regulations have been revised as voted on in October, and that two further revisions to the By-laws submitted to the members will be voted on tonight.

Our Market Manager, Cody Reinheimer, expressed appreciation to Meme for extending her retirement date to facilitate a smooth transition, and to Michael Schwebach, our former President, for taking on the hard challenges of 2014, and to the new Board for following through with the issues of 2014 and standardizing the Market Manager's salary. He reviewed in detail for the members present his activities through the fall and winter and those in preparation for the 2015 season. He was appreciative of the cooperation of the members when making application for the coming season, and felt it went very smoothly. Advertising and arrangements are pretty much in place for the opening of the market on May 9, with just a few things he reportedly expects to complete, soon. He invited all vendors to help display the posters available tonight, asking that we just tell him where we plan to place them.

Under New Business the changes and improvements made since the last membership meeting were discussed:

1. The end of season letters sent out to all vendors was hailed as a great idea, giving vendors a clear idea of where they stand for acceptance in the coming year. This will be a policy.
2. The definition of "Good Standing" in the By-laws was well received.
3. The need for an intern to fill in for the Market Manager when needing a day off, or in an emergency was noted. The members were asked to make recommendations. Tim Wheeler, owner of the Durango Coffee Company, offered to supply one of his employees to learn the job, if needed; he will talk to Cody about it.

4. Our new bookkeeper, Lynndee Beller, will be taking over soon and will be at the first market to get acquainted.
5. The “vendor behavior documentation letter” is outlined in the Rules and Regulations as a back-up safeguard in case of disputes between vendors or vendors and customers.
6. The Rules and Regulations also have a procedure for anonymous grievances, if such are found necessary.

The vote on By-law amendments: Article 2, Sec. 2.2 Categories of Membership, and Article 3, Sec. 3.1 Membership Voting, was taken on written ballots. Both passed unanimously.

The Budget for 2015 was presented by Dave, and discussion held on points in the budget. There being no changes proposed the membership voted to adopt it as presented by the Board.

Under other New Business two items were discussed:

1. Marg Crystal asked that we reconsider having a community member on the Board, or a community volunteer group as a way to keep the community engaged in the DFM.
2. The lack of financing for the Iron Chef events at the Farmers Market was discussed and the membership felt that it is a very worthwhile and profitable activity and that we need to support its continuance.

There being no further business Dave thanked everyone for coming, adjourning the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay James, Secretary