

## DURANGO FARMERS MARKET- SPRING GENERAL MEETING

MARCH 28, 2013 - MINUTES

1. Chuck Berry, President, opened the meeting with Board of Directors introductions. Michael Schwebach introduced Meme Eberspacher, the Market's bookkeeper, and explained the services she would be providing us, which includes monthly financial communication to the Board. The 44 people at the meeting, introduced themselves.
2. Treasurer's Report- Mike Jenson, Treasurer, presented the 2013 Budget. Chuck Berry, President, explained the history of the 2012 losses (vendor fees down, management oversight, EBT purchase, and overage on advertising).
  - a. 2013 Budget discussion: Dan James felt we might see an increase in vendors in 2013 to help with the deficit, wondering if the \$21,000 in income from vendor fees reflects only the fee increase. Chuck expects that better oversight of the finances is going to make a difference, including collection of all fees. Chuck explained the budget cut on music. Dave James asked about other farmer's market fees-if ours are excessive; it was felt they are not. Suggested ideas to get more vendors: each vendor use email, face book, etc. to spread the word about the market and get more customers that would in turn support more vendors.
  - b. Vendor Fees-Judy Rohwer felt that vendor fees must not go up every year. Dan explained that this present situation is the result of management error and that \$14.00/Saturday is not a huge amount for a venue. Hobby vendors and professional growers will look at fees differently, however. Suggestion was heard to rotate market spots so new people get better exposure. Kay James, Secretary, asked the assembly to accept the budget as proposed with the promise that the Board and others interested will work on an incubator for new agricultural vendors. Dan James moved that the 2013 budget be approved as submitted, John Zusy seconded. The motion passed. Accordingly vendor fees for 2013 will be as follows: Full time vendors, \$360.00/season, and daily vendor's \$40.00/day (capping out at nine (9) times.
  - c. Market Bucks- Carolyn explain that the Rules and Regulations have been changed to require the submission of Market Bucks by the vendors for payment from the Market by December 31 of each year. The Bucks will have an expiration date of December 31 of the current year printed on them for the customer to see. Market Bucks will not be accepted from vendors for redemption after December 31 this coming year.
3. Bylaw Amendments

The proposed amendments to the By-laws were reviewed and questions answered. Each proposed amendment was voted on separately as follows:

Art. 1, Section 2 - Officers (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)  
Art. 3, Section 1 - Voting Eligibility (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)  
Art. 3, Section 2 - The Boards of Directors (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)  
Art. 3, Sec. 2 - Board of Directors Eligibility (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)  
Art. 3, Sec. 2 – Elections (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)  
Art. 3, Sec. 2 – Vacancies (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)  
Art. 4, Sec. 2 – Authority of the Board of Directors (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)  
Art. 6, -- Amendments (motion made and seconded, passed unanimously)

4. Shoulder season craft opportunities-Let prequalified crafters participate if there are known open spaces two days before the market, especially in the shoulder season. This would fill empty space.
5. Holiday Market Enhancement-The suggestion was made to have November Market at the fair grounds on the same weekend as other activities are going on there to enhance attendance. Have kids perform at the Christmas market to bring more people there. Watch the dates for both for competing community activities.
  - a. A steering committee volunteered to improve the Holiday Markets, consisting of: Lindley Dixon (Adobe House Farm), Judy Rohwer (Rohwers Farm), Mary Ann LeBlanc (Designer wear), and Marsha Franklin (Potter).
6. Linda Illsley
  - a. Potential outlet for growers- Colorado Department of Tourism is waking up to local producers and are coming to Durango and she invited local producers to get involved with them.
  - b. She is doing a Prepared Food CSA at her restaurant and invited producers to participate in the CSA and get publicity. She is opening her kitchen to producers to do value add products to enhance her CSA.
7. Board of Directors elections – three seats available (going off: Chuck Berry, Michael Schwebach, and Mike Jenson)  
Nominations opened for board members and the following were nominated:  
Michael Schwebach  
Dustin Stein  
Marcia Franklin  
Dave Banga  
  
Elected: Michael Schwebach, Marcia Franklin, Dave Banga for two year terms each.

Members are reminded that according to the new By-law change, elections for board members will take place at the fall membership meeting to be scheduled some time in the two last weeks of October. Also that the October Farmers Market hours will change to 9:00 AM-1:00 PM every year. This year's Market is set to start May 11 in the First National Bank parking lot.

The retiring members of the Board were thanked for their service and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay James, Secretary