

DURANGO FARMERS MARKET

P.O. Box 3761, Durango, CO 81302

DFM Board Meeting

Thursday, July 28th 7:00 PM

Via Zoom

Those Present: Tyler Hoyt (President); Sheila Pane (Member at Large); Morgan Di Santo (Secretary); Jordan Meyers (Treasurer); Melanie Gonzales (Market Manager).

- I. Meeting called to order by President at 7:03pm.

- II. Value Added rules are vague.
 1. Amy Reid from Jake's Farm has brought up issues with Rules and Regs.
 2. Amy wants to sell freeze dried skittles and uncured pork belly. Both are not her "original" product: pork belly for her uncured bacon is from Sunnyside Meats and her freeze dried Skittles are Skittles.
 3. We were concerned about freeze dried skittles because Amy did not make them. Not because it's "unhealthy."

- B. Board discussion
 1. Value added really needs to be defined
 - a) Value added definition: "primary ingredients should come from majority local sources." Maybe it implies that the vendor is making it but doesn't actually say that.
 2. Board agrees that Rules and Reg's language could get cleaned up in the fall as they are rigid yet vague at the same time.
 3. In regards to Amy's products she is calling skittle her "ingredient."
 - a) Question arises: Can you legally resell skittles if it's trademarked?
 4. Board has discretion to approve/not approve products at their discretion
 - a) Rules and regs also can be changed by board without a vote from general membership
 5. To rush changing rules/regs would be a bad move; board should get input from membership; would be educational experience for all of us. Put forward as a topic to the fall membership meeting.
 - a) Survey vendors and customers to see what they want to see from value-added products.
 6. Maybe temporarily allow everything and then reassess in fall.
 - a) Board can ask Amy Reid to help redefine the "Value Added" product category.

- III. Product Challenge Forms

A. Product Challenge Form for Pitts Ranch

1. Form sent in by Amy Reid of Jake's Farm citing that eggs are not on their product list and they don't have the proper licensing.
2. She is also concerned that their sausage is not processed in the five county region.
 - a) Sausage is a "value added" product.
 - b) Because meat has to be processed in a USDA facility, it is not necessarily required that it is processed in the five county region. Board can't force all meat vendors to use Sunnyside, Kirkland and Road 39 Meats when these are the only processing facilities in the region and they often have long wait times.
3. Board approves the Pitts' sale of meat even though it is processed outside of the region.
4. In regards to egg sales, Melanie will reach out to the Pitts to ensure they have the proper food handling license and make sure they add *eggs* to their product list.

B. Product Challenge Form for Earth's Garden

1. Form sent in by Amy Reid of Jake's Farm
 - a) Amy does not think that Earth's Garden has proper licensing to sell lemonade.
 - b) Amy also challenges Earth's Garden's pickles citing a value added rule that says "if an agricultural vendor is making a value added product then other vendors can not make/sell that item." Earth's Garden is also doing pickled vegetables and onions. Vendor application just says pickled vegetables but she may have two varieties of cucumber pickles. However refrigerator pickles differ from vinegar pickles.
 - (1) Beverages do need the proper food handling licenses.
 - (2) Earth's Garden originally applied with Cottage Food license which entails that they can't do anything temperature sensitive.
 - (3) Visited by a San Juan Basin Health inspector. Her pickles are refrigerator pickles. Health inspector told her that her frozen lemonade ice cubes and pickles (for 7 days) are totally acceptable. She is also getting a mobile food license, which she was recently approved for.
 - c) Both issues bring to light, once again, the vaguity of our Value Added product rules.
 - d) Also with inspections we are really just taking peoples word for the "passing" of their inspections.
 - (1) Board discusses asking the health department for all inspections on file. We need to have inspections so we can enforce the rules properly.

2. Board approves lemonade from Earth's Garden.
3. Board approves Earth's Garden Pickles.
 - a) They are refrigerator pickles not waterbathed pickles like those from Jake's Farm.

IV. Other Vendor Issues:

A. Pine River Microgreens' salad dressing

1. She does not make it but it is her recipe and is made locally by Durango Artisan Foods, but it does not contain local ingredients.
2. Board agrees to approve salad dressing PROVISIONALLY.

B. Breen Mesa Farm Soap

1. Soap sold at Breen Mesa Farm booth is being made in Olathe. However, Edit, of Breen Mesa Farm, is about to start processing her goat milk into soap in Hesperus.
 - a) Partnership with a company who makes soap. She provides the goat milk for the soap.
 - b) Product needs to be made here to support the local economy. Example of coffee is that it has to be roasted here.
2. If soap is now made in the five county region as Edit says, then the board approves her soap product.
3. Edit wants to have a review of DFM board members.
 - a) Board reserves right to make decisions at their discretion.
 - b) Edit can do a petition to do a review of board.
 - c) However board members are up for "review" at the end of each two year term.
4. Membership would welcome Amy and Edit onto the board.

C. Bell Beef is being antagonistic on Facebook.

1. Amy Reid and Edit have mentioned that this post is a "bad look" for our market.
2. Bell Beef claiming that they were denied from our market purley because of price gouging or undercutting.
 - a) According to the board's many correspondences with Bell Beef via email this is not true. They were denied and then could not produce the proper paperwork about their operation and herd to counter the board's original decision.

V. Other discussion:

A. Local First

1. Local Incentives Program: Purchase from certain local merchants. DFM can sign on as a non-profit to receive donations. Not a 501C3 but a Colorado non-profit.

B. Heidi Rowher is resigning from the DFM board.

1. Board is allowed to appoint a replacement member. Only a several month commitment because Heidi's position was up for reelection in the fall.

2. Board suggests Dave Root; John Buck; or Linley, Peter, or Reid of Adobe House Farm.
- C. Filling sixth non-voting community member position in fall.
- D. Motion to appoint Sheila as Vice president of board.
 1. Sheila accepts the nomination.
- E. Notify membership about the vice president role. Also communicate about the sixth non-voting community member position.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:43PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Morgan Di Santo, Secretary