

**ST. JOSEPH FARMER'S MARKET
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2006

REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the St. Joseph Farmer's Market Board was held on March 6, 2006 at the Stone House Restaurant in St. Joseph, MN. President Bernie Evans called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Ness, Terri Emmerich, Bernie Evans, Lori Roggenkamp, John Hooper and Mary Degiovanni

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Saupe, Alvin Schlangen, and Mary Niedenfuer

OTHERS PRESENT: Bill Otto

MINUTES

A motion was made by Ness and seconded by Hooper to approve the minutes of February 6, 2006, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evans reported that he had renewed our MN Grown membership and renewed our business registration with the MN Secretary of State. He also updated the Board on upcoming conferences and meetings of interest and Board members specified their intent to attend. It was agreed that the current policy is to provide no reimbursement for attendance at conferences.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **TREASURER:** Ness reported on minor activity with no substantial change to our financials.
2. **ADVERTISING/PROMOTION:** Emmerich reported that the color logo was not yet available and the deadline to order bags through MN Grown was February 28th. There was some discussion of other options since we have until June 30th to use the \$739 grant. The Board discussed signage options but took no action until Schlangen could report back on the I-94 location possibility. The Board agreed to continue to look into good marketing options, including possibly purchasing imprinted canvas bags for sale.
3. **EDUCATION/ENTERTAINMENT:** Roggenkamp will check into the MDA processing rule changes to update members at the Spring meeting and will explore the mentioned possibility of the MN Honey Queen attending our Fall Harvest Festival. She also reported on attending a cut flower conference in Wisconsin.

4. RECRUITMENT: Hooper went through the applications received to date and the Board took the following actions:

Approved: Terri Emmerich, Bill Otto, Russ Willenbring, Leonard Birkholz, Dave Morreim, Daniel Kirick, Lori Roggenkamp, John Hooper, Shelly Carlson, and Brenda Keim (with provision that selling of caramel corn will require separate processor application)

Approved, pending proof of insurance: Jon Ness, Mary Degiovanni, Clarence Stanoch, Dennis Stanoch, and Jim Wirz

Not Approved: Judy Heiling – located outside 30 mile radius required.

OTHER: The Board authorized Otto to approve product additions by existing vendors during the Market season with formal Board review at the next subsequent meeting.

Emmerich provided the signed Lease Agreement to Degiovanni to retain with Board records.

OLD BUSINESS

1. WINTER MARKET: Emmerich reported that fewer vendors showed up at the last market but that repeat customers are strong.

2. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Evans reported that dues increased from \$50 to \$75 so he wanted to be sure the Board was still in favor of joining. A motion was made by Ness and seconded by Roggenkamp to approve the membership. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. VENDOR'S RULES & APPLICATION: The vendor application form was circulated and approved, except that Degiovanni will add the line requiring insurance before sending out the applications. There was discussion of vendor fees and a suggestion was made to charge \$10 per week, with an increase to \$20 for any week in which more than \$200 was sold. Degiovanni stated she currently pays \$15 per week as a member selling both produce and baked goods so \$10 for vendors didn't seem equitable. The Board discussed fee options but decided to further consider it at the next meeting.

2. SPRING MEETING: The consensus of the Board was for the April 4th Spring Meeting to consist of an update on the new processing rules, a presentation by Sr. Phyllis on high tunnels, and a market manager's report by Otto with time for questions and answers.

ADJOURN

President Evans adjourned the meeting at 9:10 PM.

Minutes By:

Mary Degiovanni
Secretary