

Farmers' Market Management Network, Inc.
Annual Meeting
March 9, 2009 – 10:00 AM
Ohio Department of Agriculture

Christie Welch, Farmers' Market Specialist with the OSU South Centers opened the meeting.

Tom Snyder with the Ohio Cooperative Development Center gave an overview of the organizational structure. He called on new attendees for feedback on what they expect to get out of the cooperative. Several introduced themselves and spoke.

Patti Haden with ODA spoke about the promotional benefits of the Ohio Proud website and various promotional items, bags, signs, and banners available. At Ohio Proud farmers' markets can create their own website and update it easily. Patti shared the new sustainable agriculture license plate design.

Jane Forrest-Redfern of Ohio Jobs and Family Services spoke about Ohio EBT program and the available grant funds up to \$1,000 to allow markets to have an Electronic Benefits Transfer machine at their markets. Jane will email an application guide upon request. Contact jane.forrest-redfern@jfs.ohio.gov or call 614-752-6886.

Farmers/Vendors Group:

In attendance were Becky Dickerson, Charles Ernstes, Diana Fessler, Angel King, Cathy Krist, Mark Krist, Janet Stacy, Emma Stout, Mayda Sanchez-Shingler and Tom Snyder.

The group elected Chairs as follows:

Past Chair: Becky Dickerson

Current Chair: Mayda Sanchez-Shingler

Chair Elect: Mark Krist

Board of Directors:

In attendance were Becky Dickerson, Mark Krist, Mayda Sanchez-Shingler, Bart Henshaw, Beth Knorr, Adam Schroeder, Tom Snyder and Patti Haden.

By-Laws:

A motion was made to change the By-Laws section 3.6, where meetings of the board of directors shall be held "monthly" change to "quarterly". Motion passed.

It was agreed that meetings could be held more often as needed. Distance meetings by phone conference were discussed.

Bart will create a list of board members and will send new member applications via email for approval. A carbon copy will be sent to Melissa Hurt and Christie Welch.

It was resolved that Adam Schroeder will vote and his membership fee will be submitted as soon as possible.

A discussion of by-laws section 2.4.2 concluded that Internet or email voting is included.

Bart Henshaw made a motion to approve the by-laws. The by-laws were approved unanimously.

Election of Officers:

Nominations for officers were made. Officers were elected as follows:

Mark Krist, President
Adam Schroeder, VP
Bart Henshaw, Treasurer
Mayda Sanchez-Shingler, Secretary

A discussion was held on adopting an agenda for meetings with a brief intro from one of the members about their market.

Update on Best Practices Manual: Beth Knorr reported that she is working on the table of contents with Christie Welch.

Bart Henshaw proposed the development of a checklist on how to start a farmers' market. Others ideas mentioned were:

- A frequently asked questions with questions from vendors
- A resources page on the website with links and contact information for a real person

Mark Krist made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Upcoming Meeting:

Monday, April 20, 2009 – Conference Call - 9 a.m.

Mayda Sanchez-Shingler will arrange the conference call with Christie Welch.