Norfolk Farmers Market Steering Committee
Tuesday April 7, 2020
Online

Present: Lisa Auclair, Margaret Saxe, George Vinick, Sarah Bruso, Katherine Kasacek, Darla Lovett, Mary Jo Tomaselli, Dick Tomaselli, Lisa Bequillard

Meeting called to order by Chair Lisa Auclair at 5:47 p.m.

Minutes of the previous meeting of March 3, 2020 were presented. Motion made to approve by George Vinick, seconded by Margaret Saxe and unanimously approved.

Financial Report – To date, donations total $2,090.00. We are currently in the red by $440.00.

Survey Results – only 18 responses have been received, half from vendors and half from customers.

Outdoor Market Guidelines – With the current ongoing pandemic, the Department of Agriculture has put out guidelines for Farmers Markets. Discussion was held on how our Committee could adhere to these strict guidelines. A few of the required changes that will affect the Market are: Vendors must wear masks and gloves. Vendors must be spaced with 6 feet between booths and must maintain 6 feet from their customers. No sample shall be given. No special events like cook the market. No music. No congregating or socializing. Vendors must provide sanitizers. The Market must have an adequate number of handwashing stations. There will be no access to public restrooms. There can be no food sold at the market for immediate consumption. Vendors must provide their own tents, tables and chairs and handle their own set up.

The Committee has decided to do a line set up that goes down the parking lot and towards the lawn to ensure proper direction for foot traffic. They have also decided to do a Senior hour from 10-11 and all others from 11-1.

Communication to Vendors - Lisa will be sending out these guidelines to the vendors. It was also suggested that vendors take pre-orders from customers and they can be picked up the day of the market.

Capturing new Vendors – Lisa and Michelle will meet to discuss looking for markets that may not be opening and how we can recruit new vendors.

Barnadette Bucks – Food Assistance Program – it was decided to give $250 to the Town in April, May, June, July and August. Angie will print the market bucks out for distribution.

Discussion was held on how many vendors we may have for May and if it was worthwhile to not hold the Markets until June. Another meeting will be held on April 21 to determine how many vendors have signed on to come and can meet the standards and a decision will be made at that time.

Dick Tomaselli made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mary Jo Tomaselli and unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Angela Bollard