

2021 FALL OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (UNAPPROVED)

VIA ZOOM Dec 5, 2021

Meeting called to order at 12:05 pm

INTRODUCTIONS: Alex Nielson-president, Amanda Fairall-vice president/RV manager, Gloria Harrison-Treasurer/Laytonville manager, Sarah Nielson-secretary, Lama Nasser-Gammett-coastal member rep, Robert Ayers-Ukiah manager

APPROVE AGENDA (no changes mentioned)

APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST OC MEETING-April 25, 2021: motion by Robert, second by Lama, all in favor

OFFICER REPORTS:

General Manager-Got to all markets twice this year. Lots of challenges but happy with manager's decisions. Lots of people reaching out including other associations, people who want to bring/do things at markets who aren't vendors, also vendors who want to be heard but don't want action taken.

President- Ran out of water at our farm and had to cut the season short. Sad to announce Cinnamon Bear Farm is being sold. Jack & Mimi will be moving to Oregon to be closer to their kids and grandkids. Angela & Julie have been taking care of all admin stuff and haven't needed much help.

MARKET MANAGER REPORTS

Robert-Ukiah: Construction was challenging. Things are good now. Numbers are good. Lots of homeless people living in the pavilion. Cayman & the Comptche crew are holding the market down. Venue is good but difficult with events like pumpkinfest. Still offering masks and sanitizer at the market. Good cooperation/competition between vendors. EBT is still helping the market especially due to COVID benefits (white cards). Still accepting WIC but neither the market nor vendors have card readers. Happy to be part of the market/supporting it but would like pay to reflect the hours spent and skills provided.

Amanda-Redwood Valley: Tough year! Trouble with consistency for all vendors, lack of water made getting new vendors difficult. Bathrooms are fixed after several years! EBT was up once the machine got straightened out. Had to tell vendors not to spout-off. Everyone needs to feel welcome (vaccinated or not).

Julie-Fort Bragg & Mendo: Vendors more irregular this year. Lots of last minute cancelations (especially non-ag) makes advertising difficult and creates gaps in the market. The vibe is back at Fort Bragg market. Masks are not required at market as the mandate doesn't require them outside. Nice vibe at Mendo too. Port-a-potty is really a benefit in the FB market. Mendo is not as great a location with sloping road. Hosted several vaccination events at market this year. Leaving COVID precautions up to the vendors. Heat, rodents, lack of water, and other pests were major issues this year.

Gloria-Laytonville: Biggest challenge this year was her health. Last week was the biggest EBT week ever! Vendors only coming to a few markets then quitting was a challenge and frustrating to customers. Explanation of self-funded/fundraised senior match program.

Lama(for Happy)-Boonville: Season was ok. Happy was manager but has since moved to Oregon. Nice venue (changed to AV Brewing Co.) but has a horrible hot afternoon wind and other major challenges. The hot wind was a major challenge to produce vendors. AV Foodshed is trying to help look for a new manager.

Willits market report was mailed out before the meeting.

OFFICE MGR REPORT: New hats with green bill are \$15, still have endless supply of chico bags. Big thank you to Gloria for driving to the coast every month to sign checks. Insurance broker changed again. Unsure if documentation of vendors' insurance will be required. About half of vendors have submitted proof of insurance. Reviewed book keeping and year to year comparison of Vendor Gross Sales and Stall Fee income.

CARRY OVER OF UNUSED OPERATING FUNDS (See Budget vs. Actual Chart pg. 2 at end): Did not do this year in 2020 due to COVID expenses.

SUSTAINABILITY/VIABILITY OF SMALL MARKETS- See chart of Net Income/Loss for past years
Market Managers Needed for Boonville, others?

**Language for By-Laws for Small Markets (Was on past agenda, but never acted upon)

ANNUAL-uncertain whether we need to add to bylaws for the long-term.

MEETING FOR 2022-PLAN: March 20th for Annual meeting and April 24th for Spring OC
(both on zoom). Didn't do a poster this year, not sure if it was missed? Not doing posters saves about \$700-800 per year. Decided to remove posters from annual meeting agenda and poll market managers to see how they feel. Add 1 year secretary to elections (if no one is willing/elected Sarah will finish her term but will not accept a nomination for re-election).

Well wishes for Gloria's health!

Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm