

Farmers' Market Management Network, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

**June 1st, 2009
9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

In Attendance: Becky Dickerson, Adam Schroeder, Mark Krist, Cathy Krist, Bart Henshaw, Patti Haden, Mayda Sanchez-Shingler, Tom Snyder for part of the meeting via telephone.

Reviewed meeting minutes from 4/20/2009.

Mark made a motion to approve the minutes. Adam seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Bart delivered the treasurer's report. There were no transactions and no new members. We have \$409.00 in checking and 26 members.

Adam made a motion to approve the report. Becky seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

Project Idea: The network could create a checklist that market staff could use to facilitate vendor farm/facility visits. The list could include things to look for at the vendor visit. Visit reports for a particular vendor could be pooled and shared by the members of the network, reducing staff workload and increasing number of vendors visited.

Tom Snyder of Ohio Cooperative Development Center gave a presentation via conference call regarding the South Central Ohio Purchasing Cooperative.

The cooperative will negotiate a variety of discounted benefits for its members. Groups who join the cooperative will be able to secure these benefits for all their members. The Cooperative will offer benefits in the areas of health insurance (medical, dental, vision); office supplies; building maintenance supplies; protective equipment; oil, gas and automotive services and leasing; employee benefits and other services.

The fee to join the SCOP Cooperative will be \$250 per year with the first 4 months free. Thereafter the FMMN can write a grant to cover the cost for the next 12 months. The SCOPC has reserved a seat on their board for a representative from FMMN if we choose to participate. Mark Krist volunteered to represent FMMN at the SCOPC.

The SCOPC board will meet on June 25th, 2009 at the Ohio Forestry Association on Hamilton Rd and I-270 in Columbus.

A motion was made by Bart to send Mark Krist to represent FMMN at the SCOPC and to join that Cooperative. Becky seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

A Communications Framework was discussed regarding what information should be published to our members.

- News of a non-controversial nature can be published via the website and emails.
- Official statements shall be approved by the board via email or phone

Mayda presented the new web site at FMMN.ORG.

Adam made a motion that the site should be launched after the addition of a Contact Us page. Bart seconded. The board unanimously approved.

Mayda gave an update about pending federal food safety legislation. Areas of concern with HR759 were discussed. It was agreed that a call to action letter (with key points of concern to small farmers and food processors) would be written and sent to members after approval by the board.

Ohio State Fair Farmers Market will be accepting applications for vendors until July 1st. Contact Patti Haden at the ODA for more information.

On the agenda for the next meeting: Training opportunities for January at OCDC. Bart, Adam and Mayda will work on grant writing.

The next meeting will be Monday, August 17th, 2009. 9:30 a.m. at the ODA Seminar Room to be announced.

Adam made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Bart. The meeting was adjourned.