

## **Andover Farmers Market Town of Andover**

Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 6:30 P.M.

Location: Virtual via Zoom platform

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order at 6:30 by Amanda Gibson.
2. Roll Call: Elaine Buchardt, Lucie Wilson Celeste Willard, Shirley DeFlaviis, Beth Lundberg
3. Public Participation : Amy March and Joseph Godwin
4. COVID-19
  - a. Supporting farmers during this unprecedented time.  
Amanda has been supporting out local farmers through our Facebook/
5. New Business:
  - a. Vendor Update : Cambera Farm – bread, soap  
Healthy Hound Barkery – dog treats  
Field Engineer Farm – produce  
Juniper Catering- baked treats(new)  
Coveted Farms- lettuce and greens (new)  
Birch Mountain Farm – produce  
Westernview Farm – produce, jams and pickles (only Aug. and OCT.)  
Not participating:  
East Willow Farms – opened up there farm store and don't have enough product  
CT Valley Garlic – having a baby soon  
Window Box Farm – has farm stand and full time job.  
The Nut Guy

We still need meat, eggs, cheese, etc. Amanda to talk to Hurst Farm to see if we can resell their honey and jams, sauces, salsas, etc. Cori from Camberra Farm has given Amanda a few meat vendors to talk to.

Amy is helping find some vendors. She is communication with a spice person. She will also look into Dragons Elixir who sells hot sauce to see if he is interested. Her son knows him.

Everyone needs to be on the lookout for farm vendors to add to our market.

Church and food pantry participation: Due to the virus they will not be cooking and selling hotdogs or popcorn. They will look into bags of chips and soda – possibly Hosmer Soda. Water would be good, too. They would also like to do some silent auction baskets to benefit food pantry. Beth, Shirley and Joan Soucy will be handling all this. Amanda needs to get the current town insurance policy over to Beth for church records.

Lucie said the scouts will probably be selling candy bars – no baked goods at this time.

We discussed the Dept of Agriculture safety guidelines for farmers markets to figure out how to safely set the market up. Elaine will spear head the communication to the committee what we need to do. We will need to wear masks and use gloves when handling anything, ie. Cash. The market will have a box of gloves for use and committee members can wear their own masks. We will have to get a hold of some disposable masks to give to people entering the market in case they don't have their own.

We will need a separate entrance and exit and make sure proper 6 ft distancing is marked off.

We need to discuss with the vendors how they have been handling it for other markets that are already open. We can check out the Hebron craft fair and the Willimantic Farmers Market to see how they are handling things.

Things for sale should not be touched by customers. They need to be displayed and the vendors can put things down with gloved hands. The customer can then pick them up and put in their own bags. If plastic bags are used from the vendors, I believe the 10 cent rule per bag is back in effect since May 15<sup>th</sup>. Vendors can not touch the customers re-useable bags. Hopefully the vendors have this all figured out.

We will need some kind of directing signs to explain to people how they need to act. regarding health safety.

For our July 1<sup>st</sup> market, Amanda, Elaine, Lucie, Celeste, Shirley and Beth will be there. Amy has volunteered to help. We will work on assignments since we have to be at least 6 ft from each other as well as visitors. Suzanne and Kaila may be able to help, but they weren't in the meeting. Celeste will assist in selling things from Hurst Farm.

b. Music Schedule

July 1<sup>st</sup> – Tony Susa and Liam Calhoun

August 5<sup>th</sup> – Toad and George from Slug Nickle Band

September 2<sup>nd</sup> – Maybe Tony and Liam if we can't have music on July 1<sup>st</sup> due to virus restrictions

October 7<sup>th</sup>- Mama Train Band

November 4<sup>th</sup> - ?

Amanda to check with doAG about the musician and entertainment restrictions mentioned in the Farmers Markets guidelines written up April 1<sup>st</sup>. We will certainly have to have distancing if we can have music.

c. Mission Statement – to be voted on next meeting

d. Community Sponsors – We will reach out on Facebook asking if anyone wants to sponsor the market, but not actively solicit this year due to the economic uncertainty caused by the virus.

e. 2020 Budget - The committee voted to purchase a new market sign since the old one is falling apart. We are trying to get the town to buy a new sign for posting information since they have been using the AFM sign for food pantry and food share notices. Certainly the town can use a sign for other temporary notifications. Amanda to figure out what budget to charge in the town budget for a new sign. Since we will be needing the current sign soon, Elaine will put the AFM on one side and the other side will be used in the church parking lot only on Wed. 6/10. and Wed. 6/24 to point foodshare people to the AES parking lot. Foodshare may be going back to the church after June. Elaine will handle the sign until there is a new one.

f. WIC/Senior Vouchers and EBT Machine – Amanda and Roberta are still working on getting this process up and running for the market.

We discussed advertising the market. Elaine to post in the Rivereast News Bulliten and the Journal Inquirer.

Beth to put in the church Bulliten.

Elaine will ask CERT to do traffic control at each market.

6. Public Participation: Amy March has volunteered to help the market find vendors and assist on the market day itself.

7. Adjournment at 7:30PM

Respectfully submitted by Elaine Buchardt