



Making a difference...together

**Minutes of the Salt Spring Island Market Advisory Group
Held March 6, 2017 at the Portlock Park Meeting Room, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt
Spring Island, BC**

DRAFT

Present: **Chair:** Malcolm Legg (member of the public)
Committee Members: Bree Eagle (Vendor), Garth Hendren (PARC), Julia Grace (Island Natural Growers), Donna Cochran (Basketry), Rosemary Trump (Public), Alvaro Sanchez (Jewelry), Janet Clouston 5:15 pm (Chamber of Commerce), Sean Goddard (Vendor), Donna Johnstone (Fabric), Wendy Squirrell (Pottery)
Staff: Dan Ovington, Parks and Recreation Manager; Rob Pingle, Market Coordinator; Tracey Shaver, Recording Secretary
Absent: Tye O'Connor, Scott Simmons, Grant Wickland

Public Gallery: estimated 25 people

Chair Legg called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Bree Eagle, **SECONDED** by Sean Goddard,
That Salt Spring Island Market Advisory Group agenda of March 6, 2017 be approved as presented and to allow for discussion following each of the delegations.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes

MOVED by Alvaro Sanchez, **SECONDED** by Donna Cochran,
That the minutes of the Salt Spring Island Market Advisory Group meeting of November 8, 2016 be approved with the following amendment: correct the spelling on item 6.1 of the word "solely".

CARRIED

3. Presentations/Delegations

3.1 Joe Akerman- Mr. Akerman provided background information in support of his request to reserve three Saturday Market vending (8x8) spaces for Indigenous vendors. The overall intention is to have dedicated space for Xwaaq'w'urn, Hul'qumi'num and local resident Indigenous people to vend products in the Saturday Market.

After a brief discussion it was suggested that a subcommittee be established to determine the best way to support Indigenous vendors while addressing the shortage of available vending space in the Saturday Market.

Donna Johnstone will chair the subcommittee along with members Janet Clouston, Sean Goddard, Donna Cochran.

3.2 Val Perkins- Ms. Perkins presented background information verbally and written for MAG to consider and asked for three specific items:

- 1- Independent study conducted to expand the vending area for the Saturday Market.
- 2- Remove the BC Assessment requirement for the Farmer Definition.
- 3- Proportional representation of all vendor groups on MAG.

Additional information was presented on behalf of a newly formed Saturday Market Farm and Food Vendors Group (SMFFVG) on eight potential ways to expand the Saturday Market.

A brief discussion highlighted the following:

- Policy changes are typically addressed by MAG and PARC in the fall prior to the spring start of the market.
- There are approximately 160 total Seasonal Permits issued for the 2017 Market Season.
- A maximum of 2500 square feet (example 25 10x10 spaces) are set aside for vendors defined as “Farmers” to receive priority placement by purchasing a seasonal vendor permit.
- The remaining Seasonal Permit spaces are not restricted by the items being vended other than the make it, bake it, grow it criteria.
- There are no vending restrictions placed on Day Vendors other than the items they sell must meet the make it, bake it, grow it criteria.
- Day vendors are assigned in a space based on seniority and accrue a point on each Saturday when a Seasonal Vendor chooses not to participate.
- A new Farmer who joins the Market under Day Vendor classification will accrue points each Saturday as a seasonal space opens. These points put the new Farmer in line for one of the Seasonal Permits with the all other Day Vendors based on seniority as a Seasonal Permit becomes available through attrition.
- A new Farmer who joins the Market under Day Vendor classification will *ALSO* be accruing seniority points towards purchasing one of the Farmer Priority Placement Seasonal Permit spaces as they become available through attrition.
- Expansion of the Saturday Market Area in Centennial Park has been investigated many times. The most recent attempt by PARC allowed an overflow to the boardwalk area while staying within the 25% use of the park for commerce. The remaining green spaces must be left for public use.
- The Saturday Market is a vital economic driver for Salt Spring Island and brings many visitors to the island which directly benefit many sectors of the business community.

- MAG/PARC have no objections to a market expansion in another area such as Grace Point, the Church Meadow or the backside of Gasoline Alley. This can be accomplished by establishment of a new governance body that is not under the jurisdiction of PARC/CRD as it would not be on a public property.
- Road closure of Fulford Ganges Rd between Centennial Park and the Fire Hall has been investigated several times. 1- The Harbour Authority's public boat launch is adjacent to Centennial Park. Closing the road would require the boat trailers to use Purvis Lane to access the water on busy summer Saturdays. 2- It is acknowledged that other communities block off streets for markets and events. Salt Spring is complicated in governance and does not have control over the roads. Additionally, other communities whom close roads for events often have several different routes for emergency purposes and gaining alternate access to local business areas.

3.3 Larry Starke- Mr. Starke provided information regarding the establishment and structure of the Burgoyne Valley Community Farm. The SSI Farmland Trust is a charitable organization which administers the leasing of 60 acres of valley farmland to farmers broken into larger plots and smaller plots to individuals for food production and sustainability.

Because of the charitable status the individual farmers leasing this land will not qualify for the Farmer definition under BC Assessment guidelines. Therefore the SSI Farmland Trust is asking that farmers leasing land in the Burgoyne Valley Community Farm be exempted from this requirement.

4. Reports – Chair
No report

5. New Business

5.1 Priority Placement for Indigenous Vendors – a subcommittee was established to address the requests made by the earlier delegation for the 2018 market season.

Bree Eagle leaves the meeting at 5:55 pm to be excused from a vote on item 5.2

5.2 2017 Market Exemption Requests

PARC Manager Dan Ovington reviewed the staff report which refers to the implementation of the new Farmer Definition and the registration process for the BC Assessment which is used to establish eligibility. When reviewing exemption requests it was recognized that vendors who qualified as a Farmer during the 2016 season should be given adequate time to meet the new Farmer Definition requirements.

Notice of the exemption request and deadline was communicated several times to all vendors.

MOVED by D. Johnston, **SECONDED** by R. Trump,

That the Market Advisory Group recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission direct staff to grant a one year exemption for applicants #1-10 to qualify as a farmer during the 2017 Market Season.

CARRIED

MOVED by A. Sanchez, **SECONDED** by D. Cochrane,
That the Market Advisory Group recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission direct staff to update the Farmer definition to include: a vendor who leases land for the purpose of farming from the Salt Spring Island Farm Land Trust.

CARRIED

Bree Eagle returns at 6:05 pm for the remainder of the meeting

5.3 New Partnership Request by an Existing Vendor

Manager Ovington reviewed the staff report and process for establishing new partnerships which does not allow for a business to sell their seasonal vending permit or points. Businesses may be sold, however the new business owner would be considered a new day vendor.

The partnership agreement provided in this case shows a beginning date of July 2016, however the 2016 Seasonal Market Permit does not include M. Jamrozinska nor was the permit updated prior to the end of the season.

MOVED by A. Sanchez, **SECONDED** by J. Clouston,
That the Market Advisory Group recommends to the Parks and Recreation Commission that staff deny the request from existing vendor J. Burns to be recognised as a partnership with M. Jamrozinska.

CARRIED

6. Outstanding Business - none

7. Correspondence- none

8. Next meeting- to be announced.

9. Adjournment

MOVED by R. Trump, **SECONDED** by D. Cochrane,
That the meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm.

CHAIR

SENIOR MANAGER