

Call to Order – Dick Crawford called the meeting to order at 5 pm.

Roll call – Marjorie Swift, Ken Gadway, Vicky Lesniak, JoEllen Saumier, Warren Newman, Dick Crawford, Meredith Johnston, Chris McCauliffe, Laurie Davis, Nancy Moriarty, Jane Desotelle, and Gina Agoney were present. Rob Hastings was absent.

Minutes from previous meeting – A motion was made by JoEllen and seconded by Nancy to approve Jan. & Feb. minutes with changes discussed. The vote was unanimous.

Secretary's report – Vendor packets have been mailed to all of last years season vendors. Post cards have been sent to the rest of the mailing list that have contacted us in the past three years. Additional packets are sent as requests come in. Beth has put the new packet on the web site. Location request forms have been mailed. I think post cards can be posted around instead of packets at places we may find vendors. My printer broke making post cards. I bought a new printer so I could get them out in a timely manner. Marjorie made a motion to approve the report and the motion was seconded by Chris. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's report – Gina reported she is learning to use Excel and will soon learn how to e-mail. This will improve communication between treasurer and other officers. At present we have 17 members. This list and her report is attached to the secretary's copy of minutes. The board has accepted her report with thanks.

Executive Director's Report –

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of March Bernadette and I held a vendors meeting called Making the Most of Your Farmers' Market. Thanks to funding from Adirondack Harvest we were able to hold a video conference with Clinton County, Essex County, Lewis County and St. Lawrence County. Three people hoping to sell at the new Paul Smith's market attended which is encouraging for us. Presentations given included pricing, setting up a good display, weights and measures, insurance, and events at the markets.

I will be presenting information on value-adding to farm products for added profit on March 29<sup>th</sup> in Westport & March 30<sup>th</sup> in Malone as part of the Ag Tourism program with Adirondack Harvest.

March 28<sup>th</sup> I will be at Paul Smith's College with the Adirondack Harvest event called "Local Food Connections", hoping to get more support for area farmers and their markets. As always I will be looking for new vendors and customers at such events. This event is open to the public, cost \$10 for lunch of local foods, and the day starts at 9:30 with speakers and panels.

April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> I will be in Saratoga Springs at the ANCA Buyer's Days. Each year Marj and I are able to get new vendors to attend Farmers' Markets.

I have left vendor packets with all three cooperative extensions.

Thanks to my new scanner I have scanned many photos of our markets that can easily be sent with press releases through-out the year. Beth is going to use them on the web site as well.

Meredith made a motion to approve the report and it was seconded by Laurie. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business – Manager’s contracts are 25% of the vendor fees of that market.

Rob Hastings had proposed a motion in an e-mail sent to the board. The motion is:  
Propose that Market Managers make the same amount of compensation as the 2006 markets as long as:

1. There are the same number of vendors
2. Any vendors thereafter would be compensated to the market manager at the 2007 rate.
3. Any less vendors than the 2006 markets would be compensated to the market manager at the 2006 rate.

This motion was made at the meeting by Meredith and seconded by Chris. The motion passed with 7 yea and 2 nea.

Volunteer’s for Champlain Mall Display May – Meredith can help anytime Sat. and Marjorie wants to see what time slots are open and hopes to attend.

New Business – Annual memberships to Federation of Farmers’ Markets of NY and Adirondack Harvest – JoEllen made a motion to renew membership to both organizations. Vicky seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

A discussion of how the new sampler pass would affect vendors attending markets other than July and August is a concern for the managers.

How to handle money a market has left over from previous year. Can they hold it over for a special project ?

A motion was made by Marjorie and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laurie that each market could roll over any leftover funds from their 15% of vendor fees for projects that market feels necessary in the future. For example buildings and improvements to that market site.

This motion will be postponed until the next meeting in the fall when it will be brought up again under old business.

Marjorie asked if a way to deposit vendor money in her area could be made? It was decided to keep the system used last year in place.

Gina requested a raise for AFMC treasurer duties. Meredith made a motion to pay the acting treasurer \$125 a month. She later struck her motion and made a new motion for \$150 a month retroactive to Jan. of this year. This motion was seconded by Ken and the board vote was unanimous.

Jane was concerned about getting board approval for spending promotional money already budgeted with no board meetings until fall. Chris made a motion that promotional money could be spent as Jane deems best, but not over the \$1500 approved in the budget. Notification to the finance committee will be made of monies spent. Meredith seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Next meeting – Tues. October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Adjournment –Moved by Warren and seconded by Ken was voted unanimous at 6:45 pm.