



CITY OF WELLAND

Parks, Facilities and Leisure services
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Meeting Minutes Wednesday, January 20, 2010 Market Square Advisory Committee Meeting Civic Square – Council Chambers

Members Present:

Bunny Alexander
Lyle Packham
Yvette O'Plantai
Keith McClatchie
Martha Barnes

Staff:

Bernice Booth

Council:

Regrets:

Deanna Gallagher
Mark Dzugan

Absent:

Eric Farnell
David Honey

1. The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Bernice Booth introduced Anita, who just completed her Post Graduate at Niagara College in Tourism Management. Anita will be assisting with the Demonstration Kitchen program development.
2. Bunny Alexander motioned that the minutes be approved, Martha Barnes approved the minutes.
3. Bunny Alexander informed the committee about the Market Bags. The Welland Downtown Business Improvement Area will financially support \$1,500.00 towards the market bags. The other \$1,500.00 will come from the Market Square Special Events Budget. Bernice Booth will attain three

quotes on the same type of bag and purchase the bags. The committee wants 1000 bags to be distributed over the 2010 year.

4. Yvette O'Plantai reported to the committee about the December 19th Market Square Christmas. The Christmas event was appreciated by the children and parents. Patrons enjoyed cookies and hot chocolate. O'Plantai distributed the last of the Market Jute bags to parents for shopping. After Market hours a few of the Vendors chatted and enjoyed some hot chocolate and cookies.
5. Bernice Booth updated the committee about the Market Square renovations. The proposal deadline has passed and a company has been chosen for the contract. A report to council is being prepared and will be submitted for early February Council. The renovations should begin in February and completed in April
6. Bernice Booth shared some links with the committee. Various demonstration kitchen agendas to consider.
7. Booth told the committee that the kitchen should engage the community as much as possible. There will be room for private functions, but the kitchen should give priority to community efforts. The Committee agreed.
 - O'Plantai suggested that the kitchen be used for a children's breakfast program. If there is an existing breakfast program to utilize the kitchen Monday to Friday mornings. This will assist in local low income children having a nutritious meal. The food can be prepared at the demo kitchen and taken to the schools. The committee liked the idea. Booth will investigate.
 - Martha Barnes suggested that churches might want to demonstrate and sell the cabbage rolls. The Multi-Cultural Centre could demo their foods during International Lunches and Dinners week.
 - Alexander stressed the importance of the demo kitchen including all cultures because food is celebrated by all nationalities and cultures.
 - The committee agreed that the kitchen needs to be a centre of social and educational connections. The city should welcome various chefs to host a demonstration. Bernice Booth should organize and assist in the promotions of the scheduled demos. The attendance will be a first come first serve. The Chef will teach how to prepare the dishes, and provide taster samples/Recipe cards for the audience.
 - Some of the cooking demos explored were: Girl's night out, Holiday cooking, couple classes, family cooking, preserves, sausage making.
 - The committee would like to see vendors highlighting their products through demos on Saturdays during the Farmers' Market.

- Booth showed the committee some educational materials provided by the Province of Ontario. The committee agreed that it would be beneficial to work with the local schools to provide simple healthy eating demonstrations and agricultural information to all grades.
 - O'Plantai suggested that the Saturday breakfast be facilitated by various local non-profits.
 - Barnes stressed the importance of the Saturday breakfast at the Market and the importance of the breakfast being consistent to the patrons.
 - Alexander suggested that an RFP be distributed for the Saturday Market Breakfast. to ask for a RFP to the public.
8. New Busines: Booth told the committee that she purchased a large outdoor chess set for the market. Lyle Packham asked if vendors could attend the meetings. Packham requested if the Market Parking lot be plowed more frequently. Packham asked that Booth hang a out of office sign when at Civic Square on Saturday and walk through the buildings more often.
9. The committee agreed that the meetings could be scheduled at 6:30 instead of 7 pm. Alexander asked the committee if the February meeting still needed to be scheduled. The committee agreed that it wasn't necessary. The next meeting is Febraury 17, 6:30 in the Ante room.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Next meeting is held February 17, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. in the Ante Room.