

# MOSCOW FARMERS MARKET COMMISSION



Jamie Hill  
Chair

Amanda Argona  
Staff Liaison

## ~Agenda~

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/362/Farmers-MarketCommission>

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**Tuesday, May 3, 2022**

**4:00 PM**

**Council Chambers  
206 E. Third St.**

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## WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 1. Reading of the Mission Statement

The Moscow Farmers Market celebrates life on the Palouse by providing the community with the opportunity to buy and sell locally farmed and/or created agricultural products (e.g., crops, meat, cheese, wine, etc.), distinctive handmade goods, artisan pieces, and original recipe cuisine. This venue is meant to encourage and support sustainable economic, social and environmental practices.

### 2. Approval of Farmers Market Commission April 5, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

### 3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and address for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

### 4. Vendor proposal in response to 200 air-mile radius production (ACTION ITEM) - Argona

Jeff Aichele of Aichele Farms is requesting the Commission to consider a transition proposal of allowing him to bring no more than one-hundred (100) boxes of blueberries per week while in season (late June to September) for the 2022 season due to investments made in the leased property in Hillsboro, Oregon (298.67 air miles), with the understanding that this action will not apply to the 2023 season. An email thread is attached for the Commission's review.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Accept Vendor's proposal for the 2022 season only or take other action deemed appropriate.

### 5. 2022 Site Visits - Argona

Site Visits will be scheduled between May 24-26 for the following Agricultural Vendors: Cap & Stem Fungi (Moscow, ID); Undertones (Moscow, ID); Melliflora (Troy, ID); Wild River Blooms (Lewiston, ID); Two Rivers Fungi (Saint Maries, ID); Gem State Bison (Tensed, ID); Weekes Family Farm (LaCrosse, WA); Bald Butte Lavender Farm (Colton, WA)

## REPORTS

### 1. Conference Attendance – Hill, Parker, and Argona

### 2. Branding Subcommittee – DePhelps, Hill, Martinet, Scott, and Argona

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **1. Farmers Market Commission representation required**

Sat., May 14, 2022, 9 am to 12 pm – Tabling at the Market (hosting artist)

Sat., Jul. 23, 2022, 8 am to 1 pm – RMA at the Market

Sat., Aug. 13, 2022, TBD – National Farmers Market Week Celebration

Sat., Sep. 10, 2022, 8 am to 1 pm – RMA at the Market

Sat., Oct. 29, 2022, TBD – Halloween Costume Contest (*DePhelps, Martinet, Parker*)

### **2. Proposed Items for Future Agendas**

Commission members may email Amanda Argona (aargona@ci.moscow.id.us) to propose future agenda items for discussion.

### **3. Farmers Market Commission Policies Subcommittee meeting 9 am, May 12, 2022 at Moscow City Hall in Mayor's Conference Room**

### **4. Farmers Market Commission regular meeting June 7, 2022 at Moscow City Hall in Council Chambers**

### **5. Farmers Market Commission regular meetings and holiday weekends**

To avoid conflict with the adjustment to staff's seasonal Market schedule, the following alternatives are being proposed for paid holidays observed on Mondays.

- a. **July 5, 2022 moved to July 6, 2022**
- b. **September 5, 2022 moved to September 6, 2022**

## **ADJOURN**

**NOTICE:** Moscow City Council and committee meetings are televised, videotaped and/or recorded. Individuals attending the meeting who require special assistance to accommodate physical, hearing, or other impairments, please contact the City Clerk, at (208) 883-7015 or TDD 883-7019, as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made.

# MOSCOW FARMERS MARKET COMMISSION



Jamie Hill  
Chair

~Minutes~

Amanda Argona  
Staff Liaison

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/362/Farmers-MarketCommission>

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**Tuesday, April 5, 2022**

**4:00 PM**

**Council Chambers  
206 E. Third St.**

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## **WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

MEMBERS: Sam Martinet, Jonathan Rau, Mackenzie Lawrence (Vice Chair), Stu Scott, Colette DePhelps, Jenny Parker

ABSENT: Jamie Hill (Chair), Kerry Morsek, Claire Friedrichsen

OTHERS: Hailey Lewis (City Council Liaison), Amanda Argona (Community Events Manager), Lauren O’Laughlin (Administrative Specialist)

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **1. Reading of the Mission Statement**

The Moscow Farmers Market celebrates life on the Palouse by providing the community with the opportunity to buy and sell locally farmed and/or created agricultural products (e.g., crops, meat, cheese, wine, etc.), distinctive handmade goods, artisan pieces, and original recipe cuisine. This venue is meant to encourage and support sustainable economic, social and environmental practices.

Rau read the mission statement aloud.

### **2. Approval of Farmers Market Commission March 3, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)**

Scott motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Martinet seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

### **3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)**

No public comment offered.

## **4. REPORTS**

### **1. Conference Attendance – Hill, Parker, Argona**

Conference Attendance Reports pushed to May meeting due to Hill’s absence.

### **2. 2021 Site Visits – DePhelps, Hill, Lawrence, and Argona**

DePhelps recapped the 2021 Site Visits from February for members that were absent, and continued on reporting the remainder of sites visited. Site Visits included (in alphabetical order):

- Adorn Flower Farm, Lewiston, ID
- Fiddler’s Ridge Farm, Potlatch, ID

- Flannigan Creek Flower Farm, Viola, ID
- Flowers! by Roxanne, Troy, ID
- Frisson Farm, Rosalia, WA
- Healthy Harvest Gardens, Moscow, ID
- Smoot's Flavor Farm, Pullman/Palouse, WA
- Stewart Family Farms, Lewiston, ID
- The Herd 5C, Ritzville, WA
- Viola Gardens, Viola, ID
- Winchester Ridge Farm, Winchester, ID
- Wing Over Farm, Moscow, ID

##### 5. FY23 Fees update – Argona

Last spring, the Commission voted to adopt the City's COLA as the mechanism to increase Vendor fees, with a 3% cap on increases per year. At the annual Vendor orientation, Vendors were made aware of the 1.2% increase to fees, resulting in a change of Tier 2 and 3 registrations from \$50 to \$51 and \$125 to \$127 respectively. This year's COLA for fiscal year 2023 adoption consideration by City Council is currently at 4.69%. If adopted, Vendor fees will increase by an additional 3% for the 2023 season resulting in the following.

| Tier 1                            | 2022  | 2023  |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Registration                      | \$15  | \$16  |
| Full Space                        | \$30  | \$32  |
| Half Space                        | \$15  | \$16  |
| Vehicle Parking                   | \$25  | \$26  |
| Tier 2                            |       |       |
| Registration                      | \$51  | \$53  |
| Full Space                        | \$20  | \$21  |
| Half Space                        | \$12  | \$13  |
| Vehicle Parking                   | \$20  | \$22  |
| Tier 3                            |       |       |
| Registration                      | \$127 | \$131 |
| Full Space                        | \$15  | \$16  |
| Half Space                        | \$9   | \$9   |
| Vehicle Parking                   | \$15  | \$16  |
| Amenities                         |       |       |
| Electricity                       | \$10  | \$11  |
| Corner                            | \$5   | \$5   |
| Youth (per group)                 | \$6   | \$6   |
| Buskers (per group per 2.5 hours) | \$7   | \$7   |

Argona presented the above fee schedule. Scott, a Fees Subcommittee member, noted the benefit for Vendors to be able to project into the future, and the increased transparency of the Commission's decision through the adoption of this mechanism.

##### 6. 2022 Moscow Farmers Market poster art recap – Argona

The voting period for this year's poster art ended on Friday, March 25 at 8 a.m. After a three (3) week voting period, 972 votes were collected, compared to last year's 1,004:

- MacPherson, G. – 99

- Pham, K. – 158
- Mendoza, A. – 161
- Fujii, Z. – 186
- **Ewert, J. – 368**

Attached for the Commission's review is a report on artist submissions, outreach, and voting.

DePhelps commented that many of the art submissions did not depict the diversity of people at Market and suggested adding a diversity requirement or criteria for next year. She also suggested adding a requirement that submitted artwork is in alignment with the Market Handbook, noting that two finalist submissions included animals, which are generally not allowed at Market.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 1. Farmers Market Commission representation required

Thurs., Apr. 7, 2022, 2 to 5 pm – Annual Vendor Orientation

Mon., Apr. 18, 2022, 9:45 to 11:45 am – Craft & Food Re-Jury (*Martinet, Rau, Scott*)

Wed., Apr. 20, 2022, 3:45 to 5:45 pm – Craft & Food Re-Jury (*Scott, plus 2 TBD*)

Sat., May 14, 2022, 9 am to 12 pm – Tabling at the Market (hosting artist)

Sat., Jul. 23, 2022, 8 am to 1 pm – RMA at the Market

Sat., Aug. 13, 2022, TBD – National Farmers Market Week Celebration

Sat., Sep. 10, 2022, 8 am to 1 pm – RMA at the Market

Sat., Oct. 29, 2022, TBD – Halloween Costume Contest (*DePhelps, Martinet, Parker*)

Lawrence will be present to help with check in at the orientation.

Rau and Martinet both indicated their schedules had opened up, allowing for them to be at the Wed., Apr. 20 Craft & Food Re-Jury.

### 2. Proposed Items for Future Agendas

Commission members may email Amanda Argona ([aargona@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto:aargona@ci.moscow.id.us)) to propose future agenda items for discussion.

The Commission is interested in beginning planning for the Market's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### 3. Farmers Market Commission regular meeting May 3, 2022 at Moscow City Hall in Council Chambers

### 4. Farmers Market Commission regular meetings and holiday weekends

To avoid conflict with the adjustment to staff's seasonal Market schedule, the following alternatives are being proposed for paid holidays observed on Mondays.

- July 5, 2022 moved to July 6, 2022**
- September 5, 2022 moved to September 6, 2022**

## ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

**From:** [Jeff Aichele](#)  
**To:** [Amanda Argona](#)  
**Cc:** [Corey Oglesby](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 2022 Blueberries  
**Date:** Monday, April 18, 2022 10:33:31 AM

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Amanda, another issue that the board may not have considered is whether they have enough blueberries available within the air mile limit to replace what we can sell. Like I said, we can easily sell 150-200 boxes of blueberries a week, and this is with the other folks from northern Idaho selling as well.

If they cannot replace that amount of blueberries, then what the board is saying is that they would rather send market customers to buy blueberries in the grocery store from Mexico than those grown by us, a long standing member of the market in Hillsboro, OR.

if the board wants to try to transition to closer options then we should do it in steps. Limiting what we can bring to market to give other vendors some breathing room is totally understandable. But if they cut us completely off I don't think the demand will be met and there will be unhappy customers.

Thanks, Jeff

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 18, 2022, at 10:09 AM, Jeff Aichele <[jeffaichele@gmail.com](mailto:jeffaichele@gmail.com)> wrote:

Amanda, we will typically have blueberries from June 20th to September. There are 3 varieties.

I understand what the board is trying to do but we are partners and there needs to be a little give and take here. I will do whatever is best for the market but I need a period of time to adjust.

Thanks, Jeff

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 18, 2022, at 9:27 AM, Amanda Argona  
<[aargona@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto:aargona@ci.moscow.id.us)> wrote:

[Hi Jeff,](#)

I appreciate this solution you put forward. I apologize for any suddenness of this decision; that is on me and I certainly did not keep you as informed as possible. It was my intention to bring this, along with some other Vendor discrepancies, to the Commission's attention sooner, and to keep you informed, but then the pandemic became my primary focus with the Market.

The agenda for May is extremely light and I am happy to put your proposal forward at that meeting (May 3) as an action item for the Commission to render a decision. As I recall, you do not have blueberries available at every Market you attend. **Can you please remind me when you begin bringing blueberries to the Market, and roughly the number of weeks your harvest season is?** I think this information will be helpful to frame your proposal.

If the outcome at the May meeting is not what you hope it to be, the next meeting is on June 7. Both meetings are on Tuesdays, from 4-5:30 pm in City Hall Council Chambers (second floor, 206 E. Third Street). **Please reply all to this email if you want a Zoom meeting link for the June meeting**, and Corey, the Digital Media Specialist will ensure one is set-up for you. If you plan to be there in-person, then there is no need to reply all, although I know you have a long drive!

In the meantime, do not hesitate to send any further thoughts that I can provide to the Commission for their May meeting.

Best,  
Amanda

**Amanda Argona**

Community Events Manager  
Moscow Farmers Market | Community Events Division  
Office | 221 E. Second Street, Moscow, ID 83843  
Phone | 208.883.7132 Email | [aargona@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto:aargona@ci.moscow.id.us)

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**From:** Jeff Aichele <[jeffaichele@gmail.com](mailto:jeffaichele@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Saturday, April 16, 2022 2:33 PM

**To:** Amanda Argona <[aargona@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto:aargona@ci.moscow.id.us)>

**Subject:** 2022 Blueberries

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Amanda,

The news that the board was not going to allow us to sell blueberries this year has come as a complete surprise to me. I wasn't even aware that this was something that the board was considering, and we have already put considerable expense into growing these blueberries this year. Lease, pruning and trellising labor, fertilizer and chemical inputs have all been paid. If I had know that this was something that the board was considering I would have held off.

I understand what the board is hoping to accomplish and that is their prerogative. The suddenness of this decision, with no forwarning that it was even being considered has put me in a bind this year. I have a proposal for the board and I was wondering if you would pass it along.

Typically throughout the summer we will bring between 150-200 boxes of blueberries to market and sell out almost every time. As a transition to the new rule, I would like to limit what we can bring to 100 boxes per week for this year only. Next year, I understand that anything we bring would have to be grown within the air mile limit. This would be a good way for us to transition to the new rule.

If we cannot agree to this, I would like to have a meeting with the board.

Thanks, Jeff  
Aichele Farms