

MOSCOW FARMERS MARKET COMMISSION



JT Manning
Commission Chair
fmc@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Amanda Argona
Staff Liaison
208-883-7132

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

Tuesday
January 6, 2026

4:00 PM

Council Chambers
206 E. 3rd St.

Manning called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: JT Manning, Chair ; Phil Blankenship, Jodi McClory, Kassie Smith, Colette DePhelps (4:09), Samantha Martinet
MEMBERS ABSENT: Kristin Strong, Josh Larson, Gerardo Alvarez
OTHERS: Drew Davis
STAFF: Amanda Argona, Amanda Reyes

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Mission of the Moscow Farmers Market

The Moscow Farmers Market celebrates life on the Palouse by providing the community with the opportunity to buy and sell local and regional 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.

Martinet read the mission statement aloud.

2. Approval of Farmers Market Commission December 2, 2025 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Smith moved for approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by McClory. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous (5). Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

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 city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None.

REPORTS

1. Policy Subcommittee report – Alvarez, Blankenship, Larson, Manning, and Argona

Argona reviewed the proposed changes as outlined in the packet. A question was raised regarding whether a standardized form is available for vendors who inquire about providing a disclosure statement as a forager. It was recommended that the language be revised to prevent the submission of unverifiable statements sourced from the internet. Discussion followed regarding whether disclosure statements should be obtained from the Forest Service or from private landowners. Staff will work with the Legal Department to determine the best path forward, including revisions to the wording and/or the addition of a standardized form in the appendix.

2. Community Events Manager report – Argona

Argona reviewed the report as provided in the packet. She highlighted two vendors may be ineligible to participate due to Market policies and mentioned there is a potential new mushroom Vendor from Walla Walla, Washington. There was discussion on limiting vendor types to maintain a balanced product mix. Caution was noted regarding excluding new vendors in any category, with support expressed for transparency through waitlisting and educating new vendors on which product types are saturated at the

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market. Argona proposed examining the market structure and gathering vendor input regarding limiting vendor types. A question was asked about whether revenue data by vendor type, including the number of vendors in each category, could be analyzed to determine whether sales have increased or been diluted. Argona indicated that identifying Vendor information is removed from sales reporting once the deadline has passed, so annual sales comparison is not possible. Concerns were raised about market profitability and shopper numbers. Staff is working on strategies to attract more market ‘shoppers,’ not just market ‘visitors.’ It was suggested to continue to use the RMAs and citizen commission survey as a means to assess and confirm shopper motivations, affordability, etc. Argona provided an update on programming funding, and noted that Pop Club and Bicycle Benefits reimbursements tend to favor produce vendors, and potential upcoming changes to SNAP could impact these vendors; staff will review data from the 2024 SNAP pause to assess impact.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. *Proposed Items for Future Agendas*

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

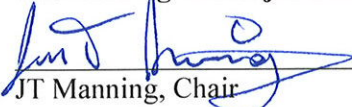
a. Strategic Plan update

2. *Upcoming events and deadlines*

- Thu., Jan. 15 “Produce” exhibit opening reception at Third Street Gallery*
- Fri., Feb. 6 “Cheers to 50 Years” exhibit opening reception at 1912 Center*

3. *Farmers Market Commission regular meeting February 3, 2026 at Moscow City Hall in Council Chambers*

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 PM


JT Manning, Chair


Date

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