

# Sauk Rapids Farmers Market Bylaws

Approved 1/22/09

## ARTICLE 1

This organization will be known as Sauk Rapids Farmers Market.

## ARTICLE 2 MISSION STATEMENT

The Sauk Rapids Farmers Market provides a gathering place where local growers, producers, and community members can mutually benefit from the direct marketing of local goods. We support local farmers. We promote land stewardship and sustainable agriculture. We educate consumers on the value of buying locally produced foods, healthy eating, and environmental issues.

## ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1

A member will be any vendor who has been accepted into this organization and is in good standing or a non-vender who demonstrates support for the market.

### Section 2

Criteria for membership will be established by the Board of Directors, here after referred to as the Board.

### Section 3

Any person who supports the purpose and mission of the market will be eligible for membership and Board positions.

### Section 4

There will be an Annual Meeting of the membership on the first Thursday evening in November or within 30 days of the last market of the season. At this time Board members will be elected with a simple majority vote of members present. Review of the market season and discussion of the new season will take place.

## ARTICLE 4 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Section 1

The activities, operation and property of the Sauk Rapids Farmers Market will be managed, directed and controlled by the Board.

### Section 2

The officers of the Board will consist of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The Market Manager is an appointed member with voting privileges.

**Chair:** The Chair will preside at all Board meetings and the annual meeting.

**Vice Chair:** The Vice Chair will preside at Board meetings and the annual meeting when the Chair is not present.

**Secretary:** The Secretary will keep minutes of all meetings.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer will keep a record of all dues and other money received from the operation of the market. She/he will keep accurate records of all expenses with the city of Sauk Rapids.

**Market Manager:** The Market Manager will oversee the daily operations at the market site.

**The Board:** The officers and market manager will constitute the Board. A person should be a member for 1 year to be on the Board. The Board will meet on the call of the Chair. The Board will arrange for all meetings, and have general charge of the Market activities. A quorum will consist of three Board members.

The Board will be responsible for review and acceptance of vendor applications for the market season. Decisions of the Board will be by simple majority.

The Board will authorize the Treasurer to pay bills approved by the Board. No Market funds will be used to benefit an individual vendor or group. The Board may sponsor any advertising or promotion and request support from various municipalities and other entities for promoting the successful operation and expansion of the market. The Board will be responsible for the annual budget of the market.

In the event of a vacancy, the Board may appoint a temporary replacement for the remainder of the term of the vacancy.

At the request of the Market Manager, the Board will investigate any suspicion of questionable practices employed by a vendor based on Market Rules and Standards. If verified, the Board is authorized to immediately enforce corrective action.

The Board may appoint subcommittees as it deems necessary.

### **Section 3**

**Terms of Office:** Board members will serve two year terms and not to exceed two consecutive terms with the exception of the market manager.

## **ARTICLE 5 OPERATIONS**

### **Section 1**

**Records:** The Board will be responsible for records of accounting, membership, approved minutes of meetings and activities. Approved records will be made available to any market member upon request to the Board Chair.

### **Section 2**

**Finances:** No obligation of expenses will be incurred or moneys paid without prior approval of the Board. All expenditures will be approved by a majority vote of the Board.

## **ARTICLE 6 AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS**

### **Section 1**

These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting providing that a notice of revisions or amendments was presented at a prior meeting and included in the current meeting agenda.

## **ARTICLE 7 DISSOLUTION**

### **Section 1**

This Market may be dissolved upon a 2/3 majority vote of the membership. Upon dissolution, the treasury is to be maintained for the period of time required to meet all outstanding bills and obligations. Any remaining funds will be donated to an organization of similar purpose to this Market.