



**Splash Pad Farmers Market Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
Meeting: January 20, 2010**

- I. Attendees: See attached sign in sheet.
- II. Report of the Committee Chair
 - A. Jerry Barclay outlined an idea for how future sod repair costs might be established – by anticipating replacement of sod on a rotating basis. Jerry will explore this cost and concept with Jim Ryugo. This is a cost that would potentially be funded by MFM as an impact mitigation.
 - B. Jerry Barclay reported progress towards completing the Conditions Report (photo compilation and labeling is the only incomplete task remaining). Jerry indicated that erosion of the decomposed granite paving areas are resulting in ponding of water and has become much more noticeable – report may be amended to include this observation prior to completion.
- III. Market Manager's Report
 - A. Nessia Berner, market manager, provided her report for the 4th Quarter of 2009 in the MFM standard report format (see attached). The report provided an approximate comparison in the number of vendors by type at the market during October of 2009 with October of 2008. There was discussion about reporting on more than a single month within a quarterly period so as to gain a better understanding of the market's seasonal transitions – October is closer to the Summer season, whereas November is distinctly different. Nessia will consider.
 - B. Nessia has enlisted volunteers recruited via Craig's List to help populate the MFM booth. She is planning to use volunteers to help with produce tastings in the Spring and Summer.
 - C. Nessia announced that compost bins /receptacles are a goal for the market. This would have many benefits including promotion of the use of compostible products used by vendors and would enable farmers to dump sample debris and leftovers, which has been a problem.
 - D. As of January 1, 2010 the MFM is now legally recognized as the Marin Agricultural Institute (MAI).

- IV. Park Maintenance
 - A. The Saturday October 24th volunteer day was a failure. Other than Ken and Jerry only two volunteers showed up to assist. Probability of success might be enhanced if the work events were scheduled as part of the preparation for other events scheduled to occur at the park such as the Salsa Festival or Lakefest. The idea of tapping into other established volunteerism such as groups that are organized and dispatched by Crocker, Lakeview, and local high schools.
 - B. Ken continues to work with Tara Rocha, the City's gardener, to implement some maintenance goals.

- V. Bike racks were discussed. Jennifer Stanley, who works as a Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Coordinator or the City's Transportation Services Division, has suggested that the City may be able to provide additional bike. Although all are in support of adding bike racks there is disagreement about where the racks would be best located. The City's ability to provide more racks may be predicated on being able to secure the racks to existing sidewalk paving. The Committee's opinion is that the best locations are in gravel or decomposed granite areas that require some (minimum) concrete work to establish a footing for the racks. In a related matter, Cycles of Change have not yet materialized.

- VI. Ken's involvement with GLRAG is opening possibilities for local retail / food businesses to participate in the Market.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at the library of the Lakeshore Baptist Church. As this coincides with St. Patrick's Day there is the strong possibility (if not likelihood) that the attendees will seek a local pub after the meeting to carry on further discussions.