OCTOBER 20th, 2015 PIKE PLACE MARKET CONSTITUENCY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: David Ott, Sharon Mukai, Joe Read, Chris Scott, Gloria Skouge, Betty Halfon, Nancy Sherman, Joan Paulson, and Tom Graham.

Others: Sabina Proto and Howard Aller.

Minutes passed out for the first time: September 15, 2015 Pike Place Market Constituency General Assembly Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Tom Graham, Chair. Tom apologized for not posting the Agenda and said if he could not do his job in the future he may need to resign. However, he said that the October Agenda was always the same every year, when Sabina Proto presented the new yearly PDA proposed budget to the Constituency.

The first item was the approval of the minutes for June 16, 2015 PPM Constituency General Assembly meeting and the July 21, 2015 PPM Constituency General Assembly meeting. They were approved by acclamation. Tom then introduced Sabina.

Sabina began her presentation by saying that she and the PDA staff had worked on this proposal for over one and a half months in what was a very positive and open process. The economy is stable with manufacturing and housing increasing and gas prices and interest rates are low. In the Market, the construction of the Marketfront is the biggest operation. Sabina then gave a brief summary of the 2016 Proposed PDA Marketing Budget from a handout she passed out to the members present. Some highlights of the 2016 proposed operating budget are:

Commercial Revenue for 2016 is proposed at $4,007,055 with a slight loss from storage revenue.

QALICB (Qualify Active Lower Income Business) share of Fairlay and Leland Revenue remains the same 2016, with QB2 (NET) up for 2016.

Daystall revenue for 2016 is projected to be down by about 22,000 dollars, while Farm Revenue will show an increase of about $10,000 from an increase of more Farmers Markets.

Garage revenue is proposed to increase by about 280,000 due to the loss of Early Bird Parking spaces.

Sabina mentioned that this year has not been as tight as some have been. She said there is no increase of employees planned this year. David Ott mentioned that it is cheaper to pay overtime than to hire more employees.

The higher Residential Expenses in the 2016 budget includes higher efforts to screen new applicants, along with an increase in the actual services provided. The same staffing as last year will be maintained.

The Daystall Tenant Expenses show an increase from $2500 to $10,000 in the category of Craft Recruitment and Retention and more spent on screening inspections to verify products are handmade.
Security Expenses increased by about 40,000 which staffing says is a very cautious budget. Randy Steigmeier wants to drop SPD staffing and use our own.

Maintenance expenses are up about 55,000 for 2015 as if is hard to tell what will break.

Utility expenses are down about 38,000 owing to more use of LED’s. Also, any cost with the new food waste recycling system is paid by the City, according to Joan. We thanked Sabina for her yearly presentation to the Constituency.

OFFICERS REPORTS: Betty gave a report on the Marketing Committee. In summary, there will be no meeting this month. Christmas advertising will include Christmas Programs in the Market, and advertising including free TV ads for the use of the Market Trademark. Emily Crawford is the new acting Market Director.

Joan spoke next about the lack of effort applied to advertising the Market in the months of January – May. Joan said that “regulars” need to be developed for these months. Chris suggested that we invite Emily Crawford, the new acting Market Director. Nancy suggested we should consider some plans for spending some of our annual budget money, for example an expansion of our office space. Tom said that a new printer/scanner would be good and we should discuss this in the Executive Meeting. Howard brought up the issue of poor attendance at many of our meetings. We need meetings with new faces. How can we recruit new members? He said we should promote how much the Constituency cares about the Market. Joan mentioned that there is a Historical Commission Meeting about Steinbrueck Park October 28 from 4-6, but we should be there by 3.

Also, an Executive Committee Meeting should include discussing City Council’s proposal to include a constituent member on the Board of the Historical Commission to be elected by the Constituency.

We adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sharon Mukai, Secretary