

**EASTERN MARKET COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

**MINUTES**

Attendance: Nikki Dean; Tom Kuchenberg, Treasurer; Susan Oursler; Jonathan Page; Donna Scheeder, Chair, and Jerry Sroufe were present. Chuck Burger, Vice Chair, arrived after the meeting began.

The regular meeting of the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC) was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., in the North Hall of Eastern Market. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Mr. Kuchenberg moved the adoption of the agenda. The agenda was adopted, as amended.

**Approval of the Minutes**

September 25, 2019, Minutes

Mr. Kuchenberg moved that the approved minutes of the meeting held on September 25, 2019, be amended by inserting the following sentence: "Ellen Opper-Weiner, representing EMPDC, was permitted to speak to the issues regarding EMPDC's application." The motion was adopted unanimously.

October 16, 2019, Minutes

By unanimous consent, consideration of the October 16, 2019, minutes was postponed until arrival at the meeting of hard copies of the minutes at the meeting.

**Report of the Chair**

The Chair stated that the absence of Monte Edwards is excused. She highlighted the 2020 EMCAC meeting dates.

**Update on the Strategic Plan**

Scott Betz, the strategic plan project manager, presented an update regarding the community engagement process, the project schedule, the project website, public market visits, and market research. Mr. Betz distributed materials, which are attached to these minutes, and welcomed input via email at [info@easternmarketplan.org](mailto:info@easternmarketplan.org).

**Approval of the Minutes**

Mr. Burger arrived with copies of the minutes. He moved approval of the October 16, 2019, regular meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

**Report on Finance Briefing**

Mr. Kuchenberg presented a written report, which is attached to these minutes, on the November 13, 2019, briefing by the Department of General Services (DGS) regarding Eastern Market financials and the process for developing the fiscal year 2021 budget. He distributed a document, which also is attached to these minutes, containing EMCAC's questions and the responses from DGS. He noted that EMCAC members praised DGS for devising a coherent method of reporting expenses and revenues, including comparisons.

**Report of the Market Manager**

Mr. Margeson presented a written report of the Market Manager, which is attached to these minutes. He agreed to inform vendors not regularly assigned street spaces that the deadline to vacate is 6:00 PM. The Chair stated it is the will of EMCAC that the conclusion of a lease agreement is information that EMCAC would like to receive. Regarding vendor permits, the Chair requested that Ms. Dean provide in writing to EMCAC a summary of the specific conflict she has identified between the vendor permit text and the law. On behalf of EMCAC, the Chair expressed appreciation to Madeleine Odendahl, the outgoing executive director of Eastern Market Main Street, for her support of Eastern Market.

**Report of the Market Operations Subcommittee**

Mr. Kuchenberg, Chairman of the Market Operations Subcommittee, reported that the committee met on October 23, 2019, and focused its attention on the September 12, 2019, Tenants Council minutes. He stated that two significant items discussed were boiler plate text in DGS contracts stating that the contract holds whereas EMCAC has maintained that the statute is of higher authority and a proposal to issue warning tickets prior to fines.

**Report of the Special Task Force on Market Violations and Dispute Resolution Process**

Ms. Oursler, Co-chair of the Special Task Force on Market Violations and Dispute Resolution Process, reported that the special task had previously reported that a DGS ombudsman program existed that appeared to provide an independent avenue to resolve disputes between DGS and vendors, however, information on the DGS website regarding the ombudsman has changed raising concerns. On behalf of the special task force, Ms. Oursler moved adoption of a letter to be sent from EMCAC to DGS regarding its ombudsman program. After discussion, the motion was adopted unanimously. The text of the letter is attached to these minutes.

**Report of the Tenants Council**

Ms. Dean reported that at its last meeting the Tenants Council reviewed issues from its September and October meetings and discussed a spreadsheet tracking system of resolved and unresolved issues.

**Eastern Market Metro Park Project Update**

Commissioner Sroufe reported that the Eastern Market Metro Park Advisory Team met on Wednesday, November 20, 2019, the project is moving forward without resolution of transportation issues, and work is expected to start in the spring. The Chair reported that a community meeting, which will cover transportation among other issues, is scheduled on Thursday, December 12, 2019, at 6:30 PM at the Watkins Elementary School. The Chair stated that the advisory team reviewed furniture, lighting, and playground equipment options as well as wayfinding signage matters, including appearance, audiences, content, and location. The Chair requested that anyone with wayfinding ideas share them with Commissioner Sroufe or her.

**Community Comments and Concerns**

Ellen Opper-Weiner inquired about social media.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Tom Kuchenberg, Secretary Pro Tem