



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft VENDING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

5:00 PM

Madison Municipal Building, Room 313
215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

1 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Due to the excused absence of Chair Foxgrover, Vice Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. with a quorum present.

Present: 6 -
Michael E. Verveer; Thuy Pham-Remmele; Hawk Schenkel; Toriana T. Pettaway; Rosemary Lee and Austin E. McClendon

Absent: 1 -
Matthew C. Rockwell

Excused: 1 -
Karen A. Foxgrover

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schenkel moved and Pettaway seconded that the minutes of the VOC meeting of January 28, 2009 be approved. The motion passed.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT

Rebecca Anderson, owner of the Elinor Building, 405 N. Frances Street, spoke in support of moving all late night vendors to the 700 block of State Street and in opposition to allowing any of them to remain on the 400 block of N. Frances Street. She read aloud a letter from a student tenant which had previously been distributed to VOC members.

Schenkel asked Anderson if the tenant who had written the letter had signed on for another lease, despite her dissatisfaction with the location. Anderson thought that the tenant had done so. Pham-Remmele asked Anderson if any of her tenants had moved out specifically because of the presence of food vendors. Anderson had no specific information about why her tenants moved out. Verveer said that Anderson appeared to be in support of the proposed ordinance, but not in support of the plan to retain some push-cart spaces on the 400 block of N. Frances Street.

Anderson asked who was going to "police" the remaining push-cart vendors. Hansen said that, as Street Vending Coordinator, he was ultimately responsible for policing street vendors but that he could not work twenty four hours a day, so that it would usually be the police who did policing of late night vending activities, with some time put in by Hansen's assistant.

Hansen drew a diagram of the plan for future late night vending on N. Frances Street. He mentioned that there were many stakeholders on that block and that most of them had shared comments with him. Hansen gave an overview of the circumstances at that cul-de-sac and an explanation of where he was planning to put two sidewalk push-carts. Anderson asked if, after a year or two, the system could be re-evaluated if it was not working as planned. She was told that this would be the case.

Vice Chair Lee had made intermittent remarks to Anderson during Anderson's testimony which Pham-Remmele and Schenkel objected to as being rude. Both felt that Lee's manner toward the speaker, as well as Lee's line of questioning - which were not questions but statements - were inappropriate. Lee became angry, tried to turn over her chair duties to Pham-Remmele, and left the meeting. Hansen reminded those present that an alder may not chair a City of Madison committee, so Schenkel volunteered to chair the remainder of the meeting. Discussion followed about the negative effects of Lee's behavior at VOC meetings. Schenkel and Verveer apologized to Anderson for Lee's manner.

- 4 [13729](#) Amending Sections 9.13(3), 9.13(4)(s), 9.13(4)(t), 9.13(6)(h)3.a., 9.13(6)(i)1.b. 9.13(6)(l)1., and 9.13(6)(n) of the Madison General Ordinances to increase basic street vendor license fees, create a 3-tiered fee structure for sidewalk cafes, and create license fees and site assignment procedures for Late Night food vending.

Sponsors: Michael E. Verveer and Thuy Pham-Remmele

At Schenkel's request, Hansen gave an overview of the changes to the ordinance, including the fee increase for the basic Street Vendor License, the three-tiered fee increases for sidewalk cafes, the new late night food vendor license and the restructuring of the late night vending process.

The committee voted to return this Ordinance to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES

- 5 [13814](#) Authorizing amendments to the "Regulations Governing Vending on the State Street Mall/Capitol Concourse" regarding Late Night food vending cart mobility and placement specifications, to coincide with ordinance amendment ID# 13729.

Sponsors: Thuy Pham-Remmele

Hansen summarized the highlights of these ordinance changes, which focused on reconciling the logistics and time constraints of Mall/Concourse and late night food vending.

The committee voted to return this Resolution to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pham-Remmele asked Hansen about the state of efforts to hire his new assistant, the Street Vendor Coordinator, at half-time permanent status. Hansen said that the position had not gotten as far as a job announcement, so no interviews had been scheduled. Hansen did hope that the new hire would be in place to allow sufficient time for training before the typically busy street vending season began in April.

6 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Pham-Remmele, seconded by Pettaway, to adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote. Schenkel adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

The next meeting of the Vending Oversight Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2009, Madison Municipal Building, Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Conference Room 313.