

This is the third in a series of Friends' 50th Anniversary Newsletters

Waterfront Entrance to the Market to get public art - Big Time. At an open house in the Atrium Loft (former Meeting Place in the Economy Bldg.) on the 10th of March, nine artists, sculptors and conceptual creators displayed their ideas, models, and videos for the discerning and curious Market "usual suspects". These nine were culled from over one hundred applicants who responded to an earlier request for proposals to create 'public art' on the plazas and ramps of the new Market construction at the PC-1 North site. This winnowing of talent and creativity is being overseen by Lillian Hochstein's Market Foundation.

All who attended were given four weighed vote tickets (1,2,3,4) to place in ballot envelopes for each applicant. A subsequent review panel will use the 'popular' vote totals in their final selections. (Some politically savvy voters 'plunked' the ballots by placing all their tickets on their very, very favorite applicant.) The final three applicants will be revealed in the next newsletter.

New Website approaches launch in April. Ritama Design is in the final stages of producing Friends' new website. It will include concise histories of the Market and FoM, plus a complete pictorial review of the public art in the Market, identified and some restored by the Market Art Committee of FoM over the past eighteen months. Additionally, the site will keep the archived videos, newsletters, and interactive contact and enrollment features. We are assured that design will follow all proper capitalization rules. Maybe Ritama can find space to display the concepts and pictures of the proposed public art for the Waterfront Entrance, also.

The Common Law of the Market

It is not as simple as it might seem. Beneath the crowds and chaos of the Market there is an historic system and structure that makes it possible for more than seven hundred farmers and craftspeople on daystalls and a revolving four hundred permitted buskers who set-up, sell or perform, and leave before nightfall each day of the year.

In 1912 the city assigned a salaried Market Master, John Winship, to assign spaces for farmers, mediate disputes, collect fees and generally - 'take charge.' By the 1920's that role devolved to the property owners in the Market; first the Goodwin family, then Joe Desimone and his family, well into the 1960's. Informal operating rules were applied for a small but stable farming community. Craft sales and street performers were present intermittently, and tolerated.

The 1971 Initiative to Keep the Market established the Historical Commission which began writing and enforcing some standards of use and design in the Market, which was still owned and operated by the city and run by a department of community affairs. The creation of the Preservation Authority (PDA) in 1973 brought a unified governing and administrative structure to the modern Market. Farmers continued to occupy the daystalls and were joined by increasing numbers of artists and craft vendors.

Over the next decade conflicts and contention developed between farmers and the craft community, which had organized as the Daystall Tenants Association. Again, City Hall intervened. Under the leadership and mediation of Councilmember Tim Hildt, the "Hildt Agreement" was signed by him as Acting Mayor in August, 1983. Thus putting in place the last section of the constitution of today's Market: a system of annual rules review and revision of the daily operation of the Market. It replaced the original rules, a one page list of rents, hours, and prohibitions (for example. "#8 - Footwear worn at all times".) written before the PDA took ownership. It has grown to over 50 pages.

Section 10 of the Agreement reads: *In January 1985 and each January thereafter, the Authority shall solicit the opinions of farmers, artists, craftspersons, performers, merchants, Market residents and Commission members concerning the effect and effectiveness of its rule and regulations.*

The agreement established an initial ten year period before review followed by three five year periods for review and renewal. The 2008 review extended the Agreement for ten years. Each annual renewal should include comments from all Market communities and the Historical Commission, before it is finally approved by the PDA Council. This year's annual rules review started in December and will conclude this month with the vote of the PDA Council.

At a meeting in mid-February, David Dickinson, the Market Master, led an informational review of the proposed rule changes at a meeting of the Market Constituency Board. He began by recognizing it was a "great democratic process" involving core Market governing bodies.

This year there were 25 proposals for changes to the daystall rules. They came from craftspeople, farmers, buskers, and PDA Staff. They affected rental rates, smoking, noise, closing times, off-season order, farmer purchase of wild greenery, busker queuing procedure and performer locations. family permits, and craft screening. All the proposals were written submissions detailing the rule change and its rationale.

Before the changes are approved, they will be reviewed by the Program Committee of the PDA Council, with another public hearing. The Market Historical Commission and the Constituency will review and comment. Finally, the PDA Council will vote to approve the 2014 – 2015 Daystall Rules & Regulations.

This may seem like a dull recitation of Market civics, but it is vitally important to the community of farmers, crafters, and buskers who continue to enliven the Market and add to the constant charm of the Market's entertaining commerce.

The Rules and Regulations (R&R) are the last document in the extended constitution of the Pike Place Market – the Historical Commission, the PDA, and the Hildt Agreement, which proscribed the body of the R&R that affects the most numerous community in the modern Market. The R&R's codify the common law of the Market, with annual adjustments.

It seems simple in operation, but it stands on tested and refined practice. Any shopper, visitor or tourist can see it in action daily at the north end of the arcade at 9AM. The crafts roll call starts with a bell ringing. The Market Master calls names by seniority and accepts the preferred location on the numbered daystalls. The crafters have to set-up by 10:00 AM. The farmers call in before

noon the previous day to select location, by seniority. They set up by 9:00 AM. Buskers can begin performing at 10:00AM and generally self-regulate at performance spots.

That community of farmers, crafters, and buskers number over 700 individuals, (80 farmers, 240 crafts, and over 400 permitted buskers) exceeding the numbers of residents and leased merchants. Last year's PDA balance sheet shows daystalls and busker revenue to the Market was \$1,667,000. This does not equal the \$9,567,000 coming from merchants, but it is not inconsequential.

Consider the contribution to sales from customer retention created by the color and entertainment the farmers and craftspeople and buskers infuse daily into the Market's ambience. That combination of talent that grows its products and crafts its jewelry and clothing or sings its songs is contributing to the vibrant atmosphere that makes the Pike Place Market the "must visit" place in Seattle.