

**Farmers Market Task Force
Illinois Dept of Public Health
Division of Food and Dairies
August 1, 2012**

Agenda Item	Note	Action	Responsibility
Introductions			
Review of Minutes			
Approval of Agenda			
Open Meetings Act Training			
By-laws Approval	Pat Welch read the by-laws and Sharon Valentine moved that the by-laws be approved and Debbie Daniels seconded the motion. No discussion.	Bylaws will be formalized in distribution with the date of approval dated August 1 st .	
Update on Survey of Farmer Experiences	Ryan Dougherty moved that Wes King be allowed to address the task force and Brad Dearing seconded the motion. 1 st statewide meeting from Illinois in 2012 with 45 participant followed with statewide meetings held at 4 sites around the state. Inconsistency in the interpretation of regulation and perceived barriers to do what farmers wanted to do inconsistency and risk and scale of what farmers wanted to do without facts of real This spring ISA had an intern to develop a		

	<p>survey to take the survey to the vendors throughout the state to tease out the perceived inconsistencies and risk and scale of barriers to entry for the farmers. Still had Inconsistency regulations issues and communication issues (farmers and entrepreneurs on one hand and of vendors and public health. Approx 50 vendors surveys</p> <p>Barriers lack of transparency in operations, hard to find information about the rules and regs for the county and even hostility, different answers from different.</p> <p>On the other hand the vendors reported that the information was available – felt that it was one-sided communication.</p> <p>Specific regulator – greatest barrier was refrigeration...some counties require mechanical refrigeration and would not accept the non-mechanical refrigeration</p> <p>Sampling – 3-basin handwashing set-up some will not allow sampling at all and others will</p> <p>Unfair to expect sampling stations at each vendor booth when grocery st</p>		
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	<p>\$300 station with hot and cold water station is a major barrier</p> <p>Processing and packaging want to do but having problems with this – canned goods – want of commercial kitchen and keeps them out of market to even know what has be done to have processed foods such as:</p> <p>Milled grains Canned veg frozen horseradish sauce, dried veg, and</p> <p>Fees – general frustration with fees...fee increases many farmers feel that the rise in fees</p> <p>Cheese was a particular frustration felt that the one product for all such as the temperature for the processing of cheese (all lower than 45 degrees) precludes farmers market rules</p> <p>Eggs – refrigeration and the specific need for mechanical refrigeration at some markets while other markets allow</p> <p>Who is in charge of regulation of eggs (Ag rules vs Public Health rules --- no cross pollination between</p>		
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	<p>understanding</p> <p>Meat – some counties were okay with state license while other counties required a second inspection on</p> <p>Brokers license for meat not issued by the ag dept due to staff shortage...what will local authorities. Temporary food permit was required for sales.</p> <p>Egg license holding eggs is 65 degrees for ag and public health is 41 degrees.</p> <p>Wholesale most responders weren't involved with in it but those that were happy with it though found that</p> <p>Insurance cost</p> <p>Cost of land</p> <p>Food Safety Modernization Act fear of what testing and monitoring will come down the pike.</p> <p>Using federal poultry processing plants but</p> <p>Clarity of regulations for on-</p>		
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	<p>farm meals – need a temporary permit or are you doing this all the time? Knowing who to ask so that you can get information from</p> <p>Farmers wanting to sell their produce directly to restaurant but the restaurant states that the health department won't allow it. Koehler wrote the legislation to state that public health can't discourage use of local food. Health department requires the use of an approved source. Approved source means that the farmer provides a receipt of farm location and contact for traceback.</p> <p>Communication is the key need for this commerce.</p> <p>Cottage Food Bill...main issue is people not understanding what is included in the preview of this. This biggest problem has been the reluctance of people obtaining the certification</p>	<p>Illinois Dept of Health put out a bulletin for the health departments about sourcing locally and what "approved source".</p> <p>Should we be more focused on certification for a method or process...rather than mandating regulations.</p> <p>Training moving from 15 to 8 hours but the legislation has not moved out of the house – so perhaps the</p> <p>Bake sales at farmers markets will require a certified food managers...educational piece at the Northern Public Health group...no registration fee up there...since the registration form is 1½ pages and there is a certification of the food handler. The website dupage county health department www.dupagehealth.org/Cottage_Food</p>	<p>Pat will send the bulletin out to the Task Force.</p>
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Overview of IL Cottage Food Law			
Priorities for 2012			
Definition of a Farmers Market	<p>A farmers market is a common facility or area where farmers gather to sell a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables and other locally produced farm and food products directly to consumers.</p>	<p>Why distinguish farmers market from other methods of marketing</p> <p>Consumer confidence of source & production methods</p> <p>Traceability</p> <p>Support local farms</p> <p>To facilitate health regulations and other regulations</p> <p>Education – cooking demo, better understanding of sustainability, seasonality, culturally food practices, farming</p>	<p>Farmers selling food they produce directly to consumers on a seasonal basis.</p>

		<p>Placemaking Accessibility to farm produced products (convenient to consumer) Provide outlets for farmers Economic development Community development Action taken taken was that we retain the definition of the farmers market in the legislation.</p>	
		<p>Pat Steiren has review multiple surveys for people to review.</p> <p>Health department will come up with questions from food safety issues, farmers think of questions for issues, market managers for their questions. By Sept hold a conference call to formulate the survey and</p> <p>Where is the farmer from? Where do they sell?</p> <p>Questions to Pat Welch on Sept 4th then the compiled questions will be sent out on Sept 6th for review sept 13th. October 11 conference call for status of surveys. November 8th in person meeting in Springfield 10-3pm</p>	

		<p>Food Safety symposium in Bloomington Sept 29</p> <p>Ad hoc committees for developing questions for the survey were established. A motion to accept the committees was pat welch and seconded by Sharon valentine.</p> <p>Public health: Stacey Bailey, Will Haytes, Sharon Vallentine, Elizabeth Patton –Whiteside, Kevin Dixon, Pat Welch.</p> <p>Farmers: Debbie Daniel, Brad Dearing, Susan Bostanche, Laura Erickson Robert Haughland and Mike Henry. Brad coordinator of this action.</p> <p>Market Mgrs: Roxanne Junge, Marjorie Sawicki, Patricia Stieren, Elaine Sebald , Lisa Bralts</p> <p>A motion to adjourn was made by farmer dan was made and seconded by DCEO. A vote was taken and the motion passed.</p>	
	A common facility or area		

