

1.23.24 Food Committee Notes

Public Session

Attendance: Dan, Dave, Larry, Marco (Marios), Saman, Jill (Blazing Salads), Sue, Mike (Cheezy Wheezies), Marcy (Cheezy Wheezies), Thom, AJ, Paxton, Vanessa, Summer (scribe)

New Food Booth Applications: 40 applications received as of 1.23.24, on Google Drive.

Blue sheets: about 25% returned, deadline is March 1st. Reminders coming from registration Determine the date in which a third reminder would be sent out. Determine what response will be for booths that do not submit a Blue Sheet on time. Goal to have 100% response by March 2024 of booths that will be there and who will not.

Refund policy changes:

Current policy is to submit request for a refund by July 31st, after the event. In guidelines policy change #7 it states that no refund request would be accepted after June 15th.

Change may have a negative impact for food booths, adds a risk to attendance being finalized last minute and feels like vendors are taken along with a decision made with crew in mind. Feb 5th board meeting will discuss guidelines being proposed. Being driven from the crew side of things, how much impact would it have on booths? Hasn't really affected booths but the potential exists and is concerning. Let folks know this is on the agenda to be discussed at the meeting on February 5th, send out email and encourage food booth feedback.

Supplemental Passes: Early to discuss, save for later

Booth vacancies: New Day Bakery space is vacant. Cart de Frisco is still TBD. More discussion can happen after March 1st when Blue Sheets are back, food committee will need to determine how the Cart de Frisco space would be used if they do not return. Options include same vendors as last year or place the spot up for new booth consideration. Consult path planning on potential for space if remains vacant, what it means for future of space when a food vendor leaves

Changes in leadership in booths: determine eligibility for running a booth at fair. Right now just a few primary and secondary changes to review, total amount of changes won't be confirmed until Blue Sheets come in March. Goal to have everyone approved by April. Set time and dates at the February meeting.

New Menu Submissions: One so far, also not finalized until March 1st. Will determine what needs to be juried in once full list of potential changes is known

Ice price increase: 20 lb bag of ice may be increasing to \$8.00 apiece. Priced close to projection of what will sell, which is 70% based on previous years sales. No confirmation if discounted bags will be available at the Mandatory Food Booth Meeting yet. Ice is an operational expense, in budget, so any feedback should be sent to Mark (who is doing the research). Not voted on because it is an operational expense. Was priced at 6.00 per bag last

1.23.24 Food Committee Notes

Public Session

year, 5.00 with a punch card. There is no incentive to buy a punch card without a discount. The convenience of having ice available onsite merits more expense for the ice than standard commercial pricing. Considerations on ice price increase include: public safety (vendors that use it to keep product at temp, compounded by potential move of lower reefer) less incentive to buy punchcards (which may lose return for fair on purchase), incentive for people to show up at Mandatory Food Booth meeting, and increase in waste. Plan to have a liaison reach out to Mark via email with concerns, plan to review concerns of the food committee prior to the final decision being made. It was also noted in discussion that ice price increase at wholesale has gone up to 5.94, and that there can be other incentives created to promote attendance at MFBM.

Schedule next couple months:

Primary Booth Rep Transitions: April Meeting

New Menu tastings: April-May

Supplemental pass requests: when have more info

New Booth location: when we have more info

Town Hall to collect feedback and discuss time sensitive things. Determine agenda and get a date set in late February, allowing for time to get two weeks notice out. Email communication to get time and agenda set.

Next Food Committee meeting: February 27th