

## **By Laws of the Saco Farmers' Market**

*The organization henceforth will be known as the Saco Farmers' Market*

1. An annual general meeting of all market members shall be held in April for the purpose of allotting spaces, collecting dues, and reviewing rules.
2. Attendance at the annual meeting is **required**. Any vendor who would like to participate in the coming season's Market must be present at the Annual Meeting unless other arrangements are made with a Committee member. Vendors must bring a check for annual market dues to the meeting to submit to the Treasurer. \*\*
3. Saco Farmers' Market is a cooperative market consisting of vender members and a Steering Committee. The Committee shall consist of no more than 5 members who have been members of the market in good standing for a minimum of 2 seasons. The Committee will choose it's own officers and manage the operation of the market.\*\*
4. A quorum will be constituted by one fifth of the membership, excluding the Committee members.
5. The Market shall open in May, on the Saturday before Mother's Day, all members being notified, and shall be open every Wednesday mid-June through mid-September, and Saturday May -October 7am-Noon.
6. All signs, banners, etc., shall remain the property of the Saco Farmers' and Artisans' Market.
7. There will be an April 1 deadline for accepting new vendors for the season. All other inquires after April 1 will be considered for the following season. \*\*
9. Only the Committee will have the authority to issue stalls to venders \*\*
8. The Committee shall recommend the fee to be paid for each permit.
10. All products offered for sale at the Market must be home grown in Maine or hand-made by the vendor. A farmer may purchase up to 25% of produce to supplement his own farm's harvest from another local Maine farmer to sell at the Market. **Any purchased product must be labeled with the local farm of origin.** Vendor farms are subject to visits by the Committee at any time during the season.

11. Vendors must let their neighboring vendors know when they plan on attending Market. If a vendor is unable to attend Market, he or she must contact neighboring vendors to allow for consistent and proper spacing.

12. A vendor's membership may be revoked by a unanimous vote of the Committee for any or a combination of the following:

- a. Attending fewer than 50% of the Market days committed by the member
- b. Exhibiting a poor attitude which disrupts the organization and operation of the Market. This includes Market days and/or meetings of the membership.
- c. Infractions of the by-laws

13. All complaints must be submitted to the Committee in writing and signed.

14. If a vendor is to call themselves organic, they must be able to provide proof of MOFGA certification.\*\*

\*\* Revised January 2019