

GROWERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – MINUTES

**HELD AT THE MELBOURNE MARKET AUTHORITY BOARD ROOM
TUESDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2012, 8.00AM – 9.00AM**

ATTENDEES & APOLOGIES

Growers Advisory Committee Members

David Wallace – Chairman
Vince Doria
Luis Gazzola
David Kelly
Alec Berias

DBI Representatives

Mary Baker – Stakeholder Relations
Howard Staehr – Commercial & Legal Manager
Brendan Edleston – Technical Manager

MMA Representatives

Allan Crosthwaite – CEO, MMA
Nada Kirkwood – Board Member, MMA
Colleen Buckley – Minute Taker, MMA

Apologies

Frank Mohren – Transition & Operations Manager

Meeting opened at 8.10am.

The Committee noted that:

- the Grower's Advisory Committee members preferred to schedule their meetings for 8.30am not 8.00am, future meetings will occur at this time.
- a proposal from the Vegetable Growers Association was forwarded to the Minister for fruit and vegetable stand sizes to be reduced from 35 square metres to 21 square metres.
- It was noted the 35 square metres may have been agreed in 2009 to accommodate Occupational Health and Safety concerns. The Committee their preference for stand sizes at Epping and agreed to support 21 square metres based on like for like on the number of stands.
- an audit will be conducted on the grower's floor to establish the varied uses of stands. A previous audit found that stands were not only used for trade, but for storage of forklifts and parking of cars.
- if the the growers have any suggestions for funding, their submissions to Government must relate to funding for relocation purposes only.

- the rents and charges will be distributed to the market community on Thursday 13 December 2012.
- The current target for the EOI for growers stands is February 2013 and feedback from the data will be discussed with the Committee. Stand Ballots will be held after the EOI process and a deposit will be required for the ballots

The date of eligibility for the EOI and the ballots is 31st January 2012.

- Draft licences will be issued in the first quarter 2013.
- The trading floor at the Epping Market in the Fruit and Vegetable section was nearing completion.
- Draft Traffic Management Plans will be shown as a presentation to provide the opportunity for discussion for all the advisory groups.
- A pull down power outlet will be provided on stands.

The Committee noted:

- The committee members requested that “genuine grower’s” receive first priority to the Ballot Draw 1 and 2 due to operating from a farm property, traditionally carried out by generations of grower’s families extending over 40 years.
- The committee raised concerns with regards to no coolroom space in the trading stands and the emissions released from the forklift fumes and ventilation at the Epping Market.
- The committee requested a copy of the Draft Traffic Management Plan in A1 size, to be able to view the plans.

Date of Next Meeting

- To be advised. – MMA

Meeting closed at 9.00am