

1 Supervisor Haas, Chairperson,
2 By the Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment reporting on:

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4 File No. 18-388
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6 A resolution by the Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment relating to an
7 informational report from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, requesting a
8 written informational report from the Interim Director, Department of Parks, Recreation,
9 and Culture, regarding the status of the Winter Farmers Market at the Domes Annex
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11 **A RESOLUTION**
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14 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Winter Farmers Market (MWFM) is operated by the
15 Fondy Food Center, whose mission is to “connect neighborhoods to fresh, local food –
16 from farm to market to table”; and
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18 WHEREAS, the MWFM began in 2009 at the Wisconsin State Fair Park and
19 moved to the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory’s Show Dome and lobby for the
20 2013/2014 season; and
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22 WHEREAS, in January 2015, the market moved to the newly built Greenhouse
23 Annex next to the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, where it has remained for
24 the past three and a half years; and
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26 WHEREAS, at the end of the 2017-2018 winter market season the Department
27 of Parks, Recreation and Culture informed the MWFM that the event could no longer be
28 housed in the Annex; and
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30 WHEREAS, MWFM began the search for a new location, but reports that it is
31 unable to find a suitable location for the market; and
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33 WHEREAS, the MWFM is open to the public and the Annex provides a sunny
34 attraction for visitors during the winter months from November to April; and
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36 WHEREAS, Fondy’s estimates that the MWFM generates more than \$1,000,000
37 for its 79 farmers and local food vendors each season; and
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39 WHEREAS, the MWFM provides urban residents an opportunity to purchase
40 nutritional, fresh food, from local vendors, accepts people with FoodShare benefits, and
41 stimulates the economy; now, therefore,

42 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors supports
43 and requests that the Administration and the Department of Parks, Recreation and
44 Culture continue Milwaukee County's partnership with the Milwaukee Winter Farmers
45 Market by negotiating a new lease with Fondy Food Center to keep the market at the
46 Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory's Annex for consideration by the County Board.