Standards Committee Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2015

Attendance: Teresa Pitzer (chair), Lynn Brown, Paulette Richards, Alan Pointer, Sheila Pointer, Dave Lee, Deb Huntley, Paula Gourley, Dennis Westfall (1st meeting)

Guests: Jeff Allen Kim Allen, Kimberly Gladen, Kathleen Houghton, Gene

Staff: Kimberly Cullen
Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Seven screenings were done before the meeting.

Introductions and Announcements: Introductions around the room. Dennis wants to rejoin the committee. This will be his first meeting.

Please note: Items may not appear in consecutive order as they were addressed at the meeting, but may have been rearranged for clarity. Points of discussion are statements of individual members and not necessarily the consensus of the whole committee.

Agenda Approval: no changes

***Motion: Approve the agenda (Paulette/Alan) All in favor 7-0-0

Minutes Approval: Minutes of the June 17 meeting.

***Motion: Approve the minutes (Alan/Lynn) All in favor 8-0-0

Pressing Member Issues: none

Prepackaged Food and Full Committee Screenings: none

Administrative Report: Kimberly reported that there were three Notices of Concern. The first was a concern regarding pieces of jewelry with large commercial components that seemed to outweigh the artist’s contribution. She reviewed the pieces on Saturday and some were removed from the display. The member discussed possible areas of improvement. The second was a similar issue of large commercial components and the member agreed to bring the work to the next committee meeting for feedback. The third was regarding carved wooden objects that are sold on handmade, intricately knotted necklaces and bracelets. Kimberly was convinced that the artist does make the knotted chains, and photographs supported the opinion that all of the work was done by hand by the same artist. There were additional concerns that the large amount of pieces and the prices indicated that the artist could not have made the work, but there are many possible explanations for those aspects. No further action was recommended.

Followup on a previous issue with commercial figurines seemed to be solved when the member removed the figurines and found his sales increased.

***Motion: Approve the admin report (Lynn/Deb) All in favor 8-0-0
Old Business: Scents and Sounds Policies, Synthetic Fragrances: Members who wished to comment were advised of the “Rules for Addressing Member Issues” and a time limit of 3 minutes was set for comments until all members wishing to speak had a chance. After that each member or guest was allowed one minute for additional comments.

Scents: A proposed revision of the Scents policy was posted (changes in bold): Members should be aware that strong scents can trigger asthma and other health problems. The Market requires that members whose product may have an impact beyond the confines of their booth be sensitive to the impact of their products on other members and the public. **Members who generate member or public concern will be required to take mitigative actions. These may include, but are not limited to, changes in packaging, display, formulation or other actions deemed reasonable to the General Manager. If mitigation cannot be successfully accomplished the member may lose their right to sell the products in question.**

An additional sentence regarding Board appeal was eliminated, as all committee decisions or decisions of the GM are subject to Board appeal.

**Points of discussion are statements of individual members and not necessarily the consensus of the whole committee.**

Discussion comments from guests and members: Excessive smell is not only offensive but a form of hawking. The discussion will be between the member whose products are in question and the GM, so it is likely that a Committee decision will not be necessary. Any decision of the GM can also be appealed to the Board but generally the member and the GM work until a satisfactory agreement is reached.

Perhaps highly scented products or sensitive individuals could be marked on the maps of SM and HM so that reserving members would be informed about their new neighborhoods. Perhaps there could be areas that are fragrance-free. Map indications of what products were in which booths were tried at HM, but due to the nature of the booking process (some previously unmarked spaces fill in after other vendors have already selected spaces), it was not deemed to be as useful as some members had hoped it would be. Sometimes it takes a member a long time to find a good neighborhood for their business and personality. Sometimes neighbor agreements can be made by the individuals involved (an example was given.)

The issue is not just an inconvenience for some, but can have debilitating health effects. Those complaining are not the only ones affected, as there are anecdotes about customers and other members who did not file formal complaints. The effects can’t be medicated or avoided. Booths shouldn’t be spreading scents as far as six booths away.

Quality of ingredients is most likely a strong component of well-scented products, as the cheaper ingredients can contain more chemicals. Synthetic ingredients are not necessarily the problem but the quality of them could be. There could be disregard of manufacturer’s recommendations for scent materials. Formulation may be the central issue. Some members will not want to discuss their formulas and recipes, even with the confidentiality agreement of staff. Studio visits following the studio visit protocol may be helpful.
Sounds: Proposed revisions of the Sounds policy (changes in **bold**): The Market requires that members whose product may have an impact beyond the confines of their booth be sensitive to the impact of their products on other members and the public. **It is recognized that the generation of sound may be integral to the successful sale of a product.** However, as sound cannot be contained, if the respective parties cannot work out a workable compromise between themselves, it will become the General Manager’s responsibility to impose a compromise in consultation with the parties concerned. If mitigation is not successful the member may be asked to leave.

Discussion and member and guest comments: Kimberly clarified that an actual complaint about sound was not filed at HM 2014 and that there were two parties involved in a dispute was not initially reported to her. She was queried about current policy at the time by one member.

The member making the noise reported that she stopped after her neighbor complained, but she thought that one member with a complaint should not have that much power over another member, but that seemed to be the way the policy was written. More rights for the member for whom the complaint is brought against and some middle ground is desired.

Both the Scents and Sounds Policies will be discussed at the next month’s meeting before being finalized as recommendations to the Board.

Services: Services has not yet appeared on the Standards agenda published for member information and input. This needs to happen before the proposed policy changes are adopted. Proposed revisions:

**Services:** Services provided by vendors at the Market must meet the following requirements and will be asked to provide documentation each year upon membership renewal. The following is a list of acceptable services:

- **Mechanical:** Vendors offering repairs, such as bicycle tire repair. Vendors offering technical consulting, such as computer repair.

- **Body Work:** Services that are considered “Hands On” which involve touching the customer must meet professional and state guidelines requiring licensure and liability insurance. A copy of the license must be visible to the customer and proof of liability insurance must be available upon request. Examples of “Hands On” services include: Massage Therapy, Reflexology, Therapeutic Touch, Physical Therapy, Bioenergetics.

- **Faith Healers:** By law, lay practitioners cannot make medical diagnoses and cannot promise a cure. However, information sharing, chanting, toning, or praying is acceptable if it does not disturb customers or other vendors. This is not considered a “Hands On” service.

- **Fortune Tellers:** Card readings, astrology readings psychic readings, tea leaf readings, I Ching readings, Rune Stone readings are acceptable, and are seen as offering a customer a story to ultimately interpret for themselves.
All new service vendors must be screened by the whole Standards Committee and will be asked these questions:

1. What training did you receive? Did you receive a certificate or degree?
2. Can you clearly explain what you do?
3. Do you have the appropriate state license and liability insurance, if it is required?

A demonstration may be required.

These revisions have not yet been discussed by the full committee but will appear on the agenda for the next meeting and will be discussed at that time. Any practitioners who have input are welcome to join the discussion.

**Discussion Topic**: Weather: Recent hot days have resulted in significant member absences and the culture may need to support better attendance by sharing adaptation techniques for hot weather. Often the predictions have been inaccurate and the days have not been that hot. Everyone should encourage their neighbors to come to sell! Saturday is our payday. The countering opinion is that there will always be fair-weather members and there are many reasons for absences.

A member stopped in to give the opinion that all members need to take responsibility for their own health and the health effects of their products.

Adjourned 6:40 pm. Next meeting August 19th, 5:00 pm. Agenda items include Scents and Sounds Policies, Services Policy, Discussion of glass products and sale of pipes at Saturday Market.