Standards Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Lynn Brown (chair), Teresa Pitzer, Paulette Richards, Alan Pointer, Sheila Pointer, Dave Lee, Deb Huntley, Paula Gourley, Sue Theolass

Guests: Misy Hansen, Teddy Wheeler, Dennis Westfall (2nd meeting)

Staff: Kimberly Cullen
Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Five screenings were done before the meeting.

Introductions and Announcements: Dennis is intending to join (second consecutive meeting). Misy is intending to join (first meeting.)

Agenda Approval: Move the item “pipes” to after the discussion about marijuana products.

***Motion: Approve the agenda (Teresa/Paulette) All in favor 9-0-0

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.

Carryover Screenings: Teddy Wheeler: Animal cutout pins: Teddy has been a fiber-arts vendor for about ten years. She brought pins made from commercial wooden cutouts which she paints, glues pinbacks to, and decorates with wool scraps from her other work. They follow the character of the fur-bearing animals they represent, such as goats, sheep, etc, with layers of different types and colors of wool. She hopes to add many animals to the array, each with different wool treatments. The wool gives depth and shape to the animals. She has the capability to make the cutouts but feels that buying commercial ones makes the product affordable for her customers. She feels that the wool rather than the shape is the focus for the customer.

Discussion: They are representational forms which are not allowed in other crafts, such as the use of commercially made molds for candles, etc. If they were generic shapes, would they still sell, or do the sales depend on the animal shapes? The commercial components must be secondary to the work of the artist. She is producing the materials used in the decoration. If she can produce the shapes, it would be a better quality product. The shapes aren’t modified but just decorated. We don’t allow other types of painted commercial products, such as green-ware or painted glassware, unless it is generic in shape and the embellishment outweighs the blank. Representational beads can only be used if they are not the focus of the product.

A motion was made and rescinded to accept the sheep. A second motion was made as follows:

***Motion: Approve the animal cutouts with wool on them and strongly suggest she hand cut her own animal cutouts. (Teresa/Dave) 3-3-3 Motion fails.
Discussion: It sends a mixed message that is not encouraging to the member trying to add a new product, but saying “strongly suggest” doesn’t really set any conditions. To be this stringent about one product ought to result in some scrutiny on other products with commercial components, to be consistent. Some members feel that handcrafting is under assault from commercially-based products and protection should be increased. Notices of concern can be filed on all questionable products. This product should be examined in the light of the three core standards. A straw poll indicated that two-thirds of the members present thought the commercial components were outweighed by the handwork. In contrast, the crocheted hat with the same scrap wool showed a completely handmade product, which is what the committee wants to encourage.

***Motion: Accept the cutouts (Teresa/Alan) 0-6-3 (Paulette, Deb, Sue).

Discussion: The vote didn’t seem consistent with the straw poll. Perhaps the issue needs to be tabled or sent to the Board. The disagreement seems to be based in the specific craft guidelines which are supposed to be secondary to the three core standards. Suggest to the member that a felted wool or crocheted animal would be a far superior product. She could purchase a cutout from another member who could cut them out for her in quantity.

Pressing Member Issues: A second member reported serious, lasting health issues triggered by the scents from a particular vendor selling upwind. Chemical sensitivity cannot be lessened by medication or any treatment, so the member is frustrated that the only solution seems to be not selling at Market when the products in question are nearby. That product should not be more important than the protection and membership of other vendors.

Discussion: While it may seem that nothing has changed, the process is still being worked through. The members have made several adaptations to their display to ameliorate the effects of the scents, in packaging, handling, and display, as well as being agreeable to changing their space to accommodate neighbors. It has passed from a Standards Committee issue to a management or Board one. Research showed no formal complaints in 2013 and one in 2014, with no complaints at Holiday Market. The GM has worked on the issue every week, trying many solutions to keep the situation workable for all. The last step in mitigation may be some type of studio visit to discuss formulations, which has been proposed. Studio visits generally concentrate on whether or not the product is handmade by the artisan, not the details of the product formulation, which members may not want to share with competitors. The scents policy changes may help. The policy does not include a zero-tolerance clause, and Market has not been that firm on such issues in the past. If a space became available in the east part of the Market, that might help as the winds are generally from the west, however, all the spaces in that area are presently reserved. A workable solution seems close at hand, and patience is requested.

Please note: Points of discussion are statements of individual members and not necessarily the consensus of the whole committee.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of July 15.

***Motion: Approve the Standards Committee minutes (Teresa/Dave) Motion passes 8-0-1 (Sue)
Administrative Report: Kimberly reported that the member given a notice to appear did not appear; this was the meeting she was supposed to attend. Kimberly has left the member a message and is awaiting a response as to why she did not attend. Typically, a member who has not attended the meeting required by the Notice to Appear is not allowed to sell their product until they do so. Kimberly is going to wait to hear from the member why she was not in attendance to decide whether to grant an exception or not. This member has not sold at our market since June 6th. No other notices were processed.

***Motion: Accept the Admin report (Teresa/ Alan) All in favor 9-0-0

Old Business: Recommendations for Guideline Changes: Scent, Sound, Services

Scents: Proposed guideline (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.

***Motion: Accept as written (Teresa/Sue) All in favor 9-0-0

Sounds: Proposed guideline (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.

***Motion: Accept the Sounds guideline as written (Teresa/Paulette) All in favor 9-0-0

Services: Proposed changes to the Services policies, including suggested revisions. Language was dropped from the end, and a phrase was added regarding tools (acupuncture needles, laser pens, etc.) which are treatment modalities which require licensure.

**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, including the use of tools, 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.

***Motion: Accept the Services guideline as written (Teresa/Deb) All in favor 9-0-0

New Business: Gun-shaped objects: A member filled out a notice of concern questioning the sale of objects which resembled guns. Those that shoot projectiles are required to be sold in a bag so they won’t be used on site, but replicas are generally not realistic and don’t pose a threat of violence. Realistic objects can’t all be banned to avoid offending people, due to freedom of speech concerns.

Concerns about the image of Saturday Market could be directed to the Board or to the Market Street Team which has discussions about the image of the Market.

Marijuana: In response to requests to sell various marijuana-based products, such as body-care products or plants, a guideline will be added to the Specific Craft Guidelines. Those are not included in the recent legal changes for marijuana, which was only legalized for personal use, not sale.

Recommendation: Proposed Guideline change: Marijuana: Saturday Market, in accordance with Oregon State Law, does not allow any product containing marijuana or any derivative thereof, to be sold at Saturday Market.

***Motion: Add the following to the Specific Craft Guidelines: Marijuana: Saturday Market, in accordance with Oregon State Law, does not allow any product containing marijuana or any derivative thereof, to be sold at Saturday Market. (Sue/Shelia) All in favor 9-0-0.

This will not include the use of hemp or hemp oil; which are different products and not derivatives of marijuana. Requests to sell soil specifically designed to grow marijuana plants would be screened according to existing guidelines for handcrafting blends of commercial products.

Pipes: A member sent a letter strongly requesting a change to allow pipe sales. Two voicemail messages, communicating the same request, were also left by this member.

Discussion: Reported opposition seems to be focused on the image of Market. Reports from Oregon Country Fair were that there were no problems selling pipes this year. They were required to check IDs and the age of 21 was required (the law seems to require the age of 18.) There were lots of families present and there was no smoking or illegal activities associated with the sales. OCF changed the
language of their alcohol policy to include illegal drugs (in effect allowing marijuana use as it is now legal). Glass artists in our Market should be allowed to sell their creations regardless of end-use, selling them as art objects. Some don’t want to see bongs for sale. Discreet displays could be encouraged. Concerns that we will become the Courthouse Plaza were voiced. Neighbor complaints and Security would control any inappropriate vending. When the ban was created, the manager asked all vendors present their opinion, so some believe another market-wide vote should be held to reverse it. Free speech allows the sale of products displaying nudity (such as photos) and other controversial subject matter (such as sex toys). It might be wise to be specific about pipes and bongs and clarify the age requirement before proceeding. Further discussion is needed at the next meeting, so it could be set aside until then.

***Motion: Set the issue aside (Teresa/Deb) All in favor 9-0-0

Discussion Topic: the Fountain. Due to the late hour members were not interested in a discussion.

Adourn: 7:25