Standards Committee Meeting Minutes          March 16, 2016


Announcements: Shawnna, Kim Allen, and Jeff Allen are attending their third consecutive meeting and are now voting members. (Kim and Jeff arrived late but attended the majority of the meeting.)

Agenda Approval:

***Motion: Approve the agenda (Paulette/Alan) All in favor 5-0-0

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. All approvals are pending the provision of all required licenses, labeling requirements, and payment of fees in a timely manner.

Prepackaged Food Screenings: 1. Erica Wade, White Picket Fence Confections: Erica makes the caramels in a friend’s certified commercial kitchen. She will provide the commissary agreement by email and add the zip code to her labels. The caramels come packaged in 15-piece bags in many varieties.

***Motion: Approve the caramels (Shawnna/Paulette) 6-0-1 (Kim) Items approved.

2. Steve Heil, Swallowtail Spirits: Steve is one of two partners who make distilled spirits. At present they make vodka but are planning to add whiskey and gin. They distill under the license of Hard Times Distillery but their own license is pending. Upon receiving the license they plan to produce their own ethanol base but are presently using a locally purchased corn-based ethanol which they filter in a 13-hour process, adding proprietary infusions and making a premium product. They bottle it in their facility. They ship the product to OLCC for sales but are licensed to sell bottles, and serve samples. He proposed selling small samples with a juice added for those who don’t want to taste straight vodka. He will look into the Food Court Featured Food Producers Program and get a food handler’s license, and communicate with Kimberly about the SM sampling guidelines.

Discussion: The committee clarified the guidelines regarding partners. Both must become members and earn points independently by attending. Alcohol sales are new to the Market although LCFM has had the beer garden and wine booths for several years without any known issues. Prepackaged food booths are allowed to give samples, but selling samples has not been done in the past. Selling samples is serving the product which is not allowed in craft booths, and brings concerns about access and possible designated area rules such as for beer gardens. Paulette will research the rules and consult with the Food Court Committee about their findings. Some felt uncomfortable with the selling of mixed drinks, as well as the use of commercially made juice, within the craft booths, but giving away tiny tastes of the vodka itself didn’t seem problematic. If there is some legal requirement that they have to take money for the samples, that needs to be considered. They hadn’t planned on selling right away so there is time to do the research before they sell. Kimberly and the co-chairs will clarify the status after the research is done.
Partnerships will be added to the Standards agenda for a future meeting. Alcohol will be added to New Business for the next meeting.

***Motion: Approve pending all legal regulations be met. (Alan/Shawnna) 6-0-1 (Paulette) Motion passed, item approved.

3. Melanie Bonney and Samuel Gross, Chef Mel’s Liquid Gold: The product is a food-enhancing sauce. The recipe is proprietary, and all of the product is made and bottled by the partners or family members in their certified restaurant kitchen. All of the licenses and labels were in order and copies will be provided.

***Motion: Approve. (Shawnna/ Sheila) 7-0-0 Motion passed, item approved.

4. Ryan O’Connor Wolik, BOHO BOTO Bohemian Botanicals: Ryan grows and processes all the plants herself. She offers a range of herbal remedies, including syrups, tinctures, lip balms, teas, and salves. All of the labels were in order. Ingestibles require a food handler’s card, which she will acquire.

***Motion: Approve (Shawnna/Paulette) 7-0-0 Motion passed, item approved.

Discussion: Licenses and paperwork: The Committee had decided that screenings wouldn’t happen if people were unprepared to provide certifications, and copies of their licenses. Kimberly decided that instead of refusing to screen them, it would be okay to approve them pending the provision of the required paperwork. If it arises that too much time is spent on particular cases, the rule could be revisited. They could be required to provide the materials in a specific time period.

Carryover Screenings: 1. Diane Haddy, Tie-Dyed Converse sneakers: Discussion centered around whether or not the dyeing constituted sufficient member contribution to the item. The laces were not dyed, just the body of the shoes. They did not have brand names or labels in prominence, so seemed to some that they were generic, and complex to others. Complex garments require greater member contribution. The dyeing was in at least two colors, and other commercial items are dyed and accepted. There are handmade shoes being sold, though not this type of shoe.

***Motion: Accept the shoes as legal to sell in the market. (Alan/Sheila) 2-5-0 Motion failed, item not approved.

2. Ali Fitzgerald, Antique Quilts: The member is a quilt maker but would also like to sell quilts she buys unfinished and finishes. Members felt that the customer would be primarily buying the features of the quilt that were antique and not the features added by the member.

***Motion: Approve the antique quilt (Paulette/Sheila) 0-7-0 Motion failed, item not approved.

Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 17, 2016

***Motion: Approve the minutes as presented (Alan/Shawnna) All in favor 7-0-0
Administrative Report: No notices of concern. The letter to the soap makers about lye sources was sent, with a reminder of the current scent policy and suggestions about display and packaging.

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

New Business: New Food Court Project: The Food Court Committee has added members and is a strong committee at this time, so would like to approve the participants in the program without a Standards Committee involvement. It would be awkward and disrupt the new member’s momentum to then require them to screen to sell in a craft booth, since screenings are only held once or twice a month. It seems more sensible and easier for the prospective members to require them to go through the regular screening process. Paulette will follow up with the FCC to clarify.

Recommendation: The Committee recommends that all Prepackaged Foods should go through the regular screening process. (This was an agreement, not a motion.)

Balloon Balls: The specific guideline for shooting products could be expanded to include active toys such as the balloon balls, requiring them to be sold in a bag. Children (and adults) play with them. Asking the member to provide demonstration space within her booth has been suggested and the member has been advised to do that. Once they leave the booth they are the same as any object a customer brings to the Market. Bags can easily be removed and discarded. There are similar complaints about balloon swords, animals, etc. but no one wants to prevent people, especially children, from having fun at the Market. Suggestions were made to put up signage, and delegate the GM to remind the vendor again, but opposition to fun doesn’t play well. If there are recurring complaints, the Notice of Concern system is in place.

Nursery License: Insert into the guidelines: “The Oregon Dept. of Agriculture may require you to have a nursery license if you sell plants. Please go to ODA.gov and research nursery licenses. If you feel you need a nursery license, please make sure the office has a copy.”

***Motion: Approve (Shawnna/Sheila) All in favor 7-0-0. Paulette had to leave at this time.

Scent: Discussion: This has returned to the agenda because part of the argument of having no regulations for pipes was that other crafts didn’t have restrictions, yet we have restrictive regulations for scented products. Before making them stronger, the discussion of consistency should be held. The Notice of Concern and Notice to Appear system is in place, and can be used if specific products are identified. The difference is that the fragrances of the scented products do reach outside of the booth footprint, and affect many who may not complain formally. One vendor is being required to do more than other sellers of scented products, but it may or may not be the best course of action to require those things of all members. Fairness is part of the issue. Rather than ask all makers of scented products to come to the meeting, possibly requiring a space rental, perhaps a wiser course is to wait to see what additional complaints are generated and deal with the specific complaints and those products. Discussion can still be held in May to see how the present restrictions are working.

***Motion: Adjourn (Sheila/Alan) All in favor 6-0-0.