

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

Staff: Kimberly Cullen                      Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Guests: Barbara Hascall, Missy Hansen, Jill Kroll, Sara

Introductions and Announcements: All present introduced themselves. Minutes will now be posted online, after approval by the Standards Committee, which means they will appear after the following meeting. Dennis still wants to be on the committee but will have to start over with his consecutive meeting attendance.

**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.**

Prepackaged Food and Full Committee Screenings: none

Pressing Member Issues: Attendants were invited to speak about the scents and sounds guidelines or any issues they were interested in, but were reminded that the committee has the guideline on the agenda and will discuss it later in the meeting. Ideas and more information are welcomed by the committee, whose job it is to deliberate on and discuss policies, and make recommendations to the Board which sets policy for the entire Market.

Jill Kroll: Jill provided detailed written information about synthetic fragrances, essential oils, phthalates, flavorings, body care products, wood finishes, paints, and soaps. She spoke about these products and the particular issues of calculating lye and fragrances for use in soap-making. She does not feel that banning synthetic fragrances would be a consistent policy decision for the Market.

Barbara Hascall: Barbara read a letter to the committee explaining that fragrances sell the soaps and she was never told to use or not use particular types of fragrances when screening. Vendor freedom is wide in the choices vendors get to make about their ingredients, processes, and business practices. She uses both fragrance oils and essential oils and feels the vendors' right to make choices about their products would be compromised by a ban on synthetic fragrances.

Missy Hansen: Missy spoke regarding the sound guideline. Her experience at Holiday Market was that one complaining vendor resulted in the ceasing of the work she was doing to make jewelry in her booth. It didn't seem fair that a compromise could not be made but the complaint compromised her right to sell (the work she does is attractive to customers and increases her sales.)

Kim Allen: Kim sent a letter which was read by all present. She and Jeff Allen requested a quickly established ban on synthetic fragrances for health reasons. Chemically sensitive people can suffer debilitating health issues on exposure. They argued that the perception of Saturday Market is that it is a

place that is wholesome and healthier than the mainstream marketplace. They had previously provided a great deal of detailed information about synthetic fragrances to the Board which was forwarded to the Standards Committee to help with their research.

Paulette spoke about a complaint brought to her about earrings that are made with commercial fishing lures that may not have enough artistic alteration by the member. A Notice of Concern should be filed if members are concerned about the products.

Minutes Approval: Minutes of the May 20 meeting.

\*\*\*Motion: Approve the minutes. (Teresa/Paula) Motion passed, 9-0-1 (Sue)

Carryover Screenings: Final Decisions: James Duc: Glass Beads made from antique cane: members discussed the issue of artistic contribution in the cutting and polishing of the cane into beads. Some felt that the artistry is in the cane, while others acknowledged the work in cutting, drilling the holes, and finishing the cane pieces into beads. He plans to sell the beads as well as making them into jewelry pieces. If he were to buy the beads he would be able to use them to make jewelry. It was noted that there is not a specific craft guideline for handmade beads. There are other products that are made with cut and polished acrylic blanks, and polymer clay is also a commercial product, often very detailed, that is cut and shaped into beads. Beautiful woods can also be used to make detailed beads.

\*\*\*Motion: Accept the beads for sale as he makes them, without being made into jewelry. (Teresa/Shawwna) Motion passed 6-3-1.

Administrative Report: Kimberly reported that there was one Notice of Concern regarding the volume of figurines used in bonsai plant arrangements. The member has been advised that only 10% of the products can be the commercial figurines. This member has received several reminders/notices to comply. Moving forward, failure to adhere to the 10% would result in no longer being permitted to include commercial figurines in his products for sale. In another issue, letters (advising members to display needed licenses to the public patrons) were sent to all applicable service providers, namely Licensed Massage Therapists.

\*\*\*Motion: Approve the Admin report. (Teresa/Alan) All in favor 10-0-0

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New Business: Synthetic Fragrances: Members discussed the use of synthetic fragrances and some of the reasons members use them. Economics is one; natural oils can be very expensive as many tons of petals are needed to extract the oils. Most crafters who use them use a combination of synthetic fragrances and essential oils. Sensitivities may be to the carriers of the fragrances, or lye that isn't sufficiently aged in soaps. The fragrances may be harmful if improperly used but there are many other potentially toxic products used in hand-crafted products. Labels are the way customers are informed if the products contain ingredients that the customer may be sensitive to. The Market does not take the

position of specifically protecting customers; they are responsible for reading the labels and determining what products are good for them.

Fragrances are trace materials in most products. Eau du cologne contains 2-4% of concentrated perfume, and perfume itself contains 15-35% of fragrance concentrates. Typically soaps contain only a few drops of fragrance per bar. Other products such as candles may emit more of their oils into the air than soaps. The call for a ban seems extreme and alarmist.

Chemical sensitivities are not allergies and there are no medications to help. The issues are real and many people do suffer from products which are strongly scented.

Solutions have been advanced to a current member with products involved in a scent issue; such as, wrapping the soaps, using fewer and smaller pieces for display, using cases, evaluating recipes chosen and selling in another location while working to reduce scent. They have been willing to cooperate with mitigation requests. They have earned the reserve space where they set up. It's not realistic to require all organic or even natural ingredients of any vendor for any product. Customers often wear synthetic fragrances or strong scents as well.

The discussion needs to be kept to policy and not solving a specific member issue. The scent guideline is already strongly written to address most situations. Reactions are highly subjective. Specific actions which could be taken in addition to the guideline are:

1. Regulate the amount of scent a member could use in a product.
2. Regulate the quality of scents or the kinds that are used in products.
3. Regulate the display of members requiring closed cases or boxes or quantity displayed.
4. Regulate the pH of the products or amount of lye.
5. Make policies about display of scented objects
6. Strengthen or enforce what is written.

There is a way to balance the concerns with the right to do business. Market has the right to insist on mitigation by members about whom complaints are made. Perhaps it would make sense to add language such as "A reasonable mitigation request may involve packaging your products in a closed container either individually or in a larger display case. An uncovered small sample may be used for display. Members will be asked to follow the recommended guidelines such as (list curing, etc.)."

Mediation does not always help members solve their issues. Sometimes people have to move or leave the Market. Maybe setting expectations would be helpful, using language such as "Here are some of the things you may be asked to do: (fill in). We are operating in a public space, where no one can control everything. Members need to produce products that don't cause problems for others."

For homework members will think or write about possible expansions to the policies with specific expectations. Staff needs clear guidelines to enforce.

Old Business: Healers and Healing Services: Members received a draft policy for this area which will be discussed at the next meeting.

Discussion Topic: Any areas of expertise that could be presented or researched? (Bookbinding, papermaking by Paula)

Meeting Evaluation: not contentious; the guests came prepared. Time limits worked well.

Adjourned @ 7:10 PM

Next meeting is July 15, 2015.