

## **Standards Committee Meeting November 20, 2024**

**In Attendance:** Anna Lawrence(co-chair), Candice Westberg(co-chair), Don Parker, Chuck Roehrich, Willy Gibboney, Micheal Baldree, Doug Robertson, Ram Shucart, Jacob Young

**Absent:** Shellana Moller

**Prospective Members:** Tika Bee

**Staff:** Veronica Gutierrez AM, Sonia Ostendorf

**Note Taker:** Candice Westberg

### **Announcements and Introductions:**

2 members announced that they will be resigning from the standards committee at the end of the year: Willy Gibboney, Michael Baldree

Anna Lawrence announced that she will be resigning as co-chair and note-taker from Standards

### **Pressing Member Concerns:**

We discussed a concern regarding a permanent jewelry product(s) that a member is offering. It appears to be predominantly commercial. There was discussion regarding safety of the technique used (argon is an inert gas and is not flammable, so not a valid health concern there). We discussed talking to the member about her product. We initially accepted her based on the handmade charms she presented. We made it clear that she could only sell the product if it included her handmade charms and chains alone, or the dominant feature, is not permitted. We discussed how to see her set-up prior to the first day of the holiday market. We would like to see her pink approval form, but it could not be located. Don made it clear that it is an electric welding process, there is no danger with the light or the inert gas.

Andrea Tanaka of Devour Cakes and More: Vanilla Bean paste – we discussed whether this item was sufficient in member contribution to be able to sell. We discussed that they are boiled then scraped clean. There was conversation about whether there needed to be more of a recipe, of multiple items combined. The committee agreed that it was enough of a process to allow the product to be sold at the holiday market.

### **\*\*\*Motion to approve Andrea Tanaka's vanilla bean paste Willy/Michael 8/0/0**

Update: Produce vendor with wreaths. It was decided since the bows were purchased pre-cut, they did not meet our requirement that plants sold need to be harvested or grown by the member.

B-bites: caramel corn – we discussed carnival food. Hot dogs and hamburgers are typical carnival food. But we feel that the members caramel corn is a step above, because it is covered in her

hand-made toffee. Candice shared information that she got from Teresa regarding carnival food. Teresa said that when Standards was making guidelines for pre-packaged foods, they deferred to the existing food court guidelines, which didn't allow carnival food because they did not want hot dogs and burgers. There were members selling popcorn and it was creating quite a mess on the park blocks. So, standards swiped the "no carnival food" line in order to get rid of the very messy popcorn.

**\*\*\*Motion to approve B-bites caramel corn for holiday market 2024**

**Anna/Willy 7/0/1**

Anna brought up that we need to watch how many exceptions we are giving. We are becoming a market of exceptions. Standards seems to give a lot of exceptions to the rules that we've put in place. "What are we trying to do for the market, as the standards committee? For me it's keeping original art in there. It's not a juried show but we do have standards. I just want to put that out there for us to keep in mind moving forward."

Jacob brought up the screening he had attended and was curious about the standard process. He discussed the process and what pitfalls might come out of it. The committee explained the processes that we already have in place for addressing these situations when they come up. If we have questions about their process, we will ask them. If we feel that we need more to confirm it's their work, we will ask for it. Michael said that one of the things we in a screening is to help this person who is coming in get to a point where they can participate, it's not just "yes" or "no", the "maybes" we say "if you do X, Y, Z, 1, 2, 3, then you can come and join our market as opposed to saying "go away".

Anna shared a personal account: regarding more than a yes or no... "my last experience was with this guy from India who wanted to sell his food. He was not ready to be here and so I gave him some hints for the next step. He came back a month later, he had like 25 things that he wanted to sell. I said okay, back it down to 5 and get all of your paperwork. It took a lot to get him (read) but he got 1 ½ days in selling. Don't know how he did, I know I bought something from him because it was great food. ... It was really neat to help him. And that's what I like about us, is that we can, when we feel it's receptive to the new member, to try to help somebody along because they really want to do it."

Don reminded the committee that we are a small business incubator. As a group we can help people get started.

**\*\*\*Motion to Approve Amended Agenda for November 20th, 2024**

**Anna/Willy 8/0/0**

**\*\*\*Motion to Approve Amended Minutes October 16th, 2024**

**Anna/Willy 7/0/1**

**Old Business:**

**Standard's Committee Handbook (this is just sitting here for the time-being)**

**Food Court Standards and Guidelines** – Holiday market info was added. We are waiting for booth assignment information to be added too.

**New Business:** none

**\*\*\*Motion to Adjourn:**

**Anna/Don 8/0/0**