

Standards Committee Meeting May 20th, 2026

In Attendance: Ram Shucart (co-chair), Tika Thomas (co-chair), Leah Holliday, Jessie Gustafson, Chuck Roehrich, Chris White, Don Parker, Jim Young,

Prospective Members: Jim Blanford (2nd), Andrea Daly (2nd), Terry Waldron (1st)

Guests: Kimberly Gladen, Madeleine Martin, Megan Tacaette, Amanda Finegold

Staff: Shannon Lee-Hutson, Sonia Ostendorf

Note Taker: Tika Thomas

Meeting Etiquette was read aloud as a reminder.

*****Motion to approve agenda (Tika/Leah 7-0-0)**

*****Motion to approve minutes from April 15th, 2026. (Leah/Chris 7-0-0)**

- It was made clear that the meeting would be focused on learning, as opposed to making any decisions.
- Jim Young read a report on his inquiry into a comparison between essential oils and synthetic fragrances.
 - He spoke about the International Fragrance Association and their work with a usage rate the use of both essential oils and synthetic fragrances to be used as a way to calculate usage before causing allergic reactions.
 - Synthetic fragrances can contain phthalates, which can legally include undisclosed airborne plastics.
 - Essential oils are natural plant extracts.
- Amanda Finegold read a letter urging the phasing out of the use of synthetic fragrances by 2028. Attached is her email.
- A letter by Kim Allen was read aloud, informing us of the dangers of people with scent sensitivities being exposed to synthetic fragrances. She

urged guidelines to protect people with severe sensitivities to scents.

- Members talked about the experience of scent sensitivity and the physical effects felt throughout the day, both from essential oils and synthetic fragrances.
 - A member brought up the differences in synthetic fragrances and how some manufacturers don't disclose all the ingredients in their fragrances. It was also mentioned that using essential oils in candle making can actually be more harmful to burn. There is a phthalate-free fragrance oil.
 - A member brought up the question, what are people doing to protect themselves?
 - Someone with scent sensitivity would have to wear a respirator to not be effected by the scents at market, which makes selling in the booth difficult.
 - It was pointed out that having a strong scent sensitivity is a disability and should be treated as such.
 - It was discussed that, if you can't list all of your fragrance ingredients, then that fragrance shouldn't be used.
 - A scent-free area was discussed, but would be difficult to manage as different members are affected by different kinds of scents and a scent sensitive person who sells something that sells something with scent might be put in that area.
 - A distinction was made between unscented and fragrance free. Unscented is not fragrance free.
 - A member expressed worry about the banning of synthetic oils because this is her livelihood. Do we want to drive people out of the market who are making their living by selling there?
 - California has a list of chemicals known to cause people harm. This list is found in CA prop 65 and it was suggested we follow this list and don't allow anything on this list to be sold in the market.
- Can we have more guidelines on packaging, labeling and storage?

- no unwrapped product, even in bins
- full disclosure of ingredients on label
- one sample of each scent on display
- phthalate free fragrance oil

- A letter was read from the Sustainability Committee asking for a preference that the guidelines around scent don't recommend using plastic to wrap products. Letter is attached.

- We need to revise the guideline around what it means to wrap scented products.

- Scent wrapping possibilities that don't use plastic:

- glassine
- seaweed film
- mushroom packaging
- wax paper
- jars
- tins

- The plan is to get this dialed in before the Holiday Market.

*****Motion to adjourn (Chris/Jim 7-0-0)**

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