

WISCONSIN VINTNERS ASSOCIATION
December 5th, 2007 BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

Vice President Tim Larsen called the meeting to order at 7:04 at his home.

Members In Attendance: Don Betlej, Mike Bell, Dave Brandt, Tom Courtney, Howard Hasselkus, Erv Herman, Chuck & Mary Howell, Tim Larsen, Jo Markham, Jim Remus, George & Mary Scovronski.

Minutes Of Previous Meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting (November) were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

Treasurer's Report: Tom Courtney presented the November Statement of Accounts. The report was approved for audit.

Correspondence: Don Betlej sent a sympathy card to the Montalbano family because of the death of Len's mother.

By-Laws/Constitution Changes: Dave presented the changes to both documents, highlighting any wording or sections that were changed. These changes will be discussed again at the next board meeting, then presented to the general membership for approval. Under the By-Laws, Section 5, Duties of the Treasurer, item f was discussed by the board and as a result a motion by Jim Remus, second by many, it was agreed the statement should be removed. (Be bonded at the expense of the Association.)

Meeting Proposal: The board recommended that members at meetings be asked not to open bottles of wine until after the program presentation as a way of keeping talking down. An item will be put in the newsletter and the Sergeant At Arms will make an announcement at the meetings. Board members have been asked to approach members to encourage compliance.

Upcoming Events: Tim Larsen is working on the following membership meetings.

April: Mason Creek presentation, perhaps expanding on the winemaking classes which will be held March 1st.

May: Possible food and wine pairing put on by a restaurant located in East Troy.

June: New members program on beginning winemaking.

Dinner Dance: Everything is going well. All invitations, reply cards and envelopes are printed and ready to be assembled. Another caterer will be considered for 2009 as the current ones are not responsive to telephone calls. Also, this is the last year for smoked fish supplied by club members.

Revised New Member Brochure: Don Betlej states it is a work in progress.

WVA Logo Clothing: Mary Scovronski has selected eight or nine items which will be introduced to the membership for purchase.

WVA Business Cards: Rick Markham will present samples at the next board meeting.

New Member Club Roster: Don Betlej suggested that this be discussed at the next board meeting.

Winemaking Video: Tom Courtney reported the video is interesting, well done, and covers the basics.

Members-At-Large Recruiting Dinner Dance Help, etc: While some new members have been approached to help out, most do not want to commit until they are more familiar with the club. A sign up sheet will be presented at the next general membership meeting though, hoping to encourage participation.

Suggestions For Membership Meetings: Because the winemaking levels of members are divided between new and experienced, perhaps meetings could start with a question and answer session with the president moderating, encouraging new winemakers to ask questions. For lengthy or detailed explanations an experienced winemaker could address the issue after the meeting.

New winemakers should also be encouraged to attend the winemaking class on March 1st.

Programs/Upcoming Events:

December 12th – Membership Meeting, Clifford's
January 2nd – Board meeting at the home of George & Mary Scovronski
January 9th – Membership Meeting, Clifford's
January 30th – Board meeting at the home of Howard & Sally Hasselkus
February 2nd – Dinner Dance
March 1st – Winemaking Class
March 5th – Board meeting at the home of Don Bettej
March 12th – Membership Meeting, Clifford's
March 15th – Club Judging, Clifford's

The meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Howell

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Recording Secretary