

WISCONSIN VINTNERS ASSOCIATION
October 3, 2007 BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

President Joanne Ziarek called the meeting to order at 7:02 at the home of Bill & Karen Schneider.

Members In Attendance: Mike Bell, Don Betlej, Tom Courtney, Howard Hasselkus, Jerry Horzewski, Chuck & Mary Howell, Tim Larsen, Rick & Jo Markham, Jim Remus, Bill & Karen Schneider, George & Mary Scovronski, Joanne Ziarek.

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

September Membership Meeting Attendance: 56

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

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

SurveyMonkey: Don Betlej will set up the account.

Wine Making Program: A beginning wine making class is planned for sometime in February or March to be completed on one Saturday all day session. Ideas are being worked on and as soon as a preliminary date is established an announcement will be made to club members. It was suggested that the program be videotaped.

Web Site Upgrade: Don Betlej has been in contact with Jeff Beutler and the two have agreed to get together at the next club meeting.

Future Meetings:

October: Presentations by Tom Courtney, wine making program, and Howard Hasselkus, sulfites.

November: Harvest dinner.

December & March: Critical wine tasting, one on member's wines and one on commercial wines.

January: Requesting Jerry Uthemann to present a program on sparkling wines.

Dinner Dance: Jim Remus has scheduled a meeting for October 15th at his home. Don Betlej will send out a general announcement to members to attend the preliminary meeting. Jim is looking for volunteers to help. It was suggested that when new members join the club they be encouraged to join committees as a way of helping out the club and also so they get acquainted with other members.

Wine For Diners: Jim Remus reports there is enough wine for quite a few meetings.

Audit: The audit was completed by George Scovronski and Howard Hasselkus and will be filed.

Harvest Dinner: Jerry Horzewski reports everything is on track. There will be door prizes and a wine raffle is being considered. Members will also be encouraged to bring a bottle of wine for Jack in appreciation for letting the club use his hall free of charge for our meetings.

New Member Brochure: Rick Markham, Don Betlej, and Joanne Ziarek will be looking at the old brochure and making revisions.

WVA Logo Clothing: The committee, George Scovronski, Don Betlej, and Tim Larsen are contacting companies and a variety of items will be selected and offered to the general membership. On that note, Rick Markham reported he has digitally redone the club logo. Any one needing the logo can contact him.

WVA Business Cards/Membership Cards/Website Stamp: While the business cards will be addressed at a later date by Rick Markham, it was suggested that perhaps individual members also receive membership cards, noting that some wine suppliers might be encouraged to give discounts for club members. Also, a stamp with the club website would be very useful.

Lifetime Membership Plaques: Rick Markham brought examples of future plaques and they were well received by the board. It was agreed the plaques would be used for future honorees.

Memorial Policy: An issue was formalized into policy regarding the death of a club member. The policy will now read "In the event of the death of a club member the Corresponding Secretary will send a sympathy/condolence card."

Vintner's Press: Don Betlej intends to publish this again next month and is planning to include a history of it and also republish what is believed to be the first one created by John Rauenbuehler.

Possibilities: Several new ideas were talked about for development:

1. After meetings perhaps an experienced wine maker could address questions from new members.
2. At meetings, a short Fermenter's Forum could be utilized with new equipment and ideas.
3. It was proposed that life members could be interviewed and the results put on the club website.
4. A wine record keeping form developed by Tom Courtney could be put on the website and/or sent to all members as a broadcast message.

Programs/Upcoming Events:

October 10th – Membership Meeting, Clifford's

November 11th – Harvest Dinner, Clifford's

November 14th – Board meeting at the home of Erv & Bobbi Herman

December 5th – Board meeting at the home of Tim Larsen

December 12th – Membership Meeting, Clifford's

The meeting adjourned at 8:47.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Howell

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Recording Secretary