

NDGWA 2016 Annual Meeting

Radisson Hotel

Bismarck, ND

February 7th, 2016

The 2016 meeting of the North Dakota Grape and Wine Association meeting was called to order at 4:18 pm by President Mark Vining.

Secretary Steve Sagaser certified that we had a quorum of 10 percent or more members present which allowed the meeting to proceed.

Minutes – a motion to dispense with the reading of minutes was made by Jeff Kopp and seconded by Lisa Cook. The motion passed by voice vote.

The Treasurer's report was made by Greg Cook – the association has on hand approximately \$8500.

Moved by Bob Thaden to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Randy Albrecht and the motion passed by voice vote.

President Mark Vining gave a recap of the past year's activities. He described the board meetings and how to access the board meeting minutes on the member's only portion of the website. He described where the meetings are held and how any members can participate by phone if they want to.

The president described some of the legislative concern and activities regarding reporting requirements that affect ND wineries and the means taken by some of the members to change the legislative bills in order to have a better outcome for North Dakota wineries.

The Vitinord conference was supported by attendance from our association members. The North Dakota Grape and Wine Association had the largest membership contingent of any state at the conference. We also paid for an manned a booth that featured ND wines. The Aronia wine proved to be one of the most popular wines at the ND booth.

The president discussed the association's grape petiole testing program and the grower reimbursement policy of \$30 for one test.

Support letters were written by NDGWA board members in support of the NDSU specialty block grant request.

Mark discussed the marketing plan with Flint marketing. Funding for the marketing plan was obtained by a grant from the ND Department of Agriculture.

The strategic plan was discussed by Mark. The ND vineyard survey was discussed and members were encouraged to fill out the survey.

Membership levels - the four membership levels were discussed including the costs and benefits of the different levels.

The different board committees and their duties were discussed.

Bob Thaden gave a short report on the work of the research committee. He discussed some of the work that was being done at the REC in Minot. Bob gave an enthusiastic description of the NDSU grape breeding program.

Election of Board Members

The nomination Committee consisted of Rod Ballinger, Randy Albrecht, and Rodney Hogan.

The nominees for two year terms are: Greg Cook, Kevin Kinzel, Jeff Kopp, Steve Sagaser, and Mark Vining.

Greg Cook moved to cease nominations for the board of directors. Randy Albrecht seconded the motion and it was passed by a voice vote. Marilyn Thaden moved to cast a unanimous ballot for the board of directors. Bob Thaden seconded the motion and it passed by voice vote.

The officer nominations are:

Mark Vining - President, Bob Thaden – Vice President, Greg Cook – Treasurer, Steve Sagaser - Secretary

Motion to cease nominations was made by Kathy Wiederholt, Kevin Kinzel seconded the motion.

MA motion was made by Randy Albrecht to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of officer positions was made by Randy Albrecht. Lisa cook seconded the motion and it passed by voice vote.

Certificates of appreciation were presented by member Rodney Hogan to outgoing board members Greg Krieger and Ken Duppong. Ken was not present to receive his certificate.

Old Business - The call for old business was negative.

New Business

Rodney Hogan discussed the need to have the membership committee contact current and past members to encourage past members to re-join the association and to inform current members of when their membership needs to be renewed.

A question was asked about the membership levels and what benefits were included with each level. The discussion included adding other commercial vendors to the membership levels and then to the website.

Board meeting agendas and meetings were discussed. It was encouraged that members participate by providing input to the board members and attending any board meetings they are interested in.

It was suggested by members that upcoming board meetings and agendas be posted on our listserv and other social media.

Bob brought official greetings from the newly formed Montana Grape and Wine Association. He discussed communications between the two associations as well as South Dakota. He suggested that by working together, we can strengthen each others organization and improve the quality of our efforts

Greg Cook will be next year's conference chair.

It was moved to adjourn the meeting by Greg Cook

The motion was seconded by Bob Thaden and the motion to adjourn passed by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Sagaser – Secretary NDGWA