

NDGWA Board Meeting

3/16/2016, Loftsgard Hall, NDSU Campus, Fargo, ND

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm by President Mark Vining.

Members attending in person were: Mark Vining, Greg Cook, Steve Sagaser, Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, Stan Hanson

Members attending by conference call: Kevin Kinzel, Bob Thaden, Randy Albrecht

Members absent: Jeff Kopp

Guests attending: Rodney Hogen

Secretaries Report

Greg moved to approve the minutes; Stan seconded and the motion to approve the minutes was passed by voice vote.

Treasurers Report –

We have \$6526.01 in our account.

Steve moved to approve the treasurer's report. Stan seconded the motion and the report was approved by voice vote.

Old Business

- **Committee Reports / Discussion**

- **Research Committee**

- Harlene reported in an email from Carl Camper that he is collecting more V. riparia to keep it from being destroyed before herbicide causes these plants to be lost.

- **Membership committee**

- Questions were asked at the annual meeting about what a commercial membership will entail. For now names and addresses will be kept. Additional contact information such as links contact social media and webpages will not be included if a commercial membership is not paid for. This topic will be discussed and researched further. Flint communications will be included in this discussion.

- **Education / Events Committee**

- **Conference Review**

The conference comments were looked at and discussed. Discussion was about adding more information about fruit growing.

Wine categories were discussed. They will be reviewed and redone. Steve and Greg will work to revise the categories. A wine walk and / or commercial tasting was discussed for the Saturday evening event.

There was discussion about possibly having the next annual meeting and conference on January 20 & 21, 2017

We are looking at holding the conference at a different location, possibly the Ramkota Hotel or the Ramada Hotel. Greg has volunteered to be conference Chair, Mark and Steve will help with it. Conference will be held in Bismarck at some other venue. We will look at a survey at next conference to try some other location.

New Business

Mark will respond to the (Sutter Home) law firm about the vine to dine controversy. We will no longer use the slogan of Vine to dine.

Committees / Chairs for upcoming year.

Legal / Regulatory and Legislative Committee – Chaired by Mark: Mark and Randy will meet with the state tax department and attorney general to discuss our concerns and to get guidance for future legislation.

Membership Committee – Chaired by Stan: Rodney and Greg Cook will serve on the committee.

Research Committee - Chaired by Bob Thaden: Steve, and Harlene will serve on the committee. Mark reported that the culinary arts program institute in Fargo is considering developing an enology lab. At their Fargo location. Harlene reported there is work in progress by the Northern Grape Project to apply for another Specialty Crop Research Initiative grant. Carl Rosen from U of MN may have some data that could be used for petiole samples.

Marketing and Publicity Committee – Chaired by Mark: Greg Cook will serve on the committee and will seek input from Dean Ihla (North Dakota Tourism).

Education and Events Committee – Chaired by Greg Cook: Mark Vining, Steve Sagaser, and Kevin Kinzel will serve on the committee.

Finance Committee – Chaired by Greg Cook: Mark will serve on the committee.

Mark visited with Kaylyn and Jordan from Flint. Mark is sending out the Flint Website and social media audit of NDGWA. Flint will provide suggestions for increasing social media use. Twitter and Facebook were two possibilities for improving social media exposure. Flint will also provide suggestions for making our logo bolder and easier to work with.

Greg Cook suggested we have wine tasting events in several cities for local chefs, sommeliers, restaurant owners, liquor store owners.

Marketing ND wines and developing a quality assurance program was discussed. Will Flint will be helping with this need?

A low cost vine to dine kind of event was discussed. Kevin Kinzel will consider hosting an event in late September. We could also have these events in Fargo, Grand Forks or other cities.

Mark will work with Greg to make a proposed budget and will make it available to the rest of the memberships.

Funding for the Northern Grapes project runs out September 1st.

A 501c5 organization is being proposed as a means to continue the webinars for another year. MN Grape Growers have agreed to host the organization. \$20,000 in funding is needed which would be about \$2000 per association. We will need to let Mike White know if we are considering becoming a part of this.

The Specialty Crops Research Initiative will be applied for again to fund the Northern Grapes project. We will need to find a source of money to provide our share of the \$2000.

Bob emailed Chris Amundson at the Minot REC and will be heading to Minot to look at the grapes. He will be doing some pruning and will get an assessment on how many of the grape plants will potentially produce fruit this year.

It was moved to adjourn the meeting by Steve, the motion was seconded by Greg Cook and the meeting was adjourned at 5:07pm

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