

NDGWA Board Meeting

June 21/2016, Loftsgard Hall, NDSU Campus, Fargo, ND

The meeting was called to order at 3:09pm by President Mark Vining.

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

Members attending by conference call: Stan Hanson, Kevin Kinzel, Randy Albrecht

Members absent: Jeff Kopp, Bob Thaden, Alan Fuller

Guests attending:

Secretaries Report

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

Treasurers Report –

Much the as same as last time no money spent, no money received. Radisson had lost their check but Greg has replaced the check and it's been received. Steve moved to approve, Randy Seconded. Treasurer's report passed

Old Business –

Northern Grapes Project – Mark talked to Mike White and said he thinks it would not be an issue if we (NDGWA) provided \$500 –\$700 funding vs the request for \$2000 per organization. No money needs to be sent until later.

Harlene stated that on the 18th, the university people are getting together to discuss a new northern grapes II project.

Michigan state and Paulo Sabatini will be the main lead of the new Northern Grapes Project instead of Tim Martinson and Cornell University. Harlene will probably put out a question to the growers so that we get what we need from this project.

Mark will check with Bob Thaden about the status of the Vineyard Survey to see if their responses or needs can be addressed through the Northern Grapes Project.

Germ plasm project update – Harlene stated that over 2000 seedlings were planted at Minot, also put in were a third of the larger scale replicated project plants that will undergo further testing. These were planted in the nursery. All of the plants are at three locations. A non-propagation agreement is in the process with Bob Thaden. By 2018 it's hoped there will be enough fruit to produce wine samples. About thirty to fifty crosses of the "quick hits" crosses (on their third year) are planted at each location.

Harlene is working on a long term plan and budget that can be taken to the Ag commissioner and governor so they will know in advance how much for funding we will need to see this program through to fruition.

Brittnee has been working on the enology part. Will need some help with hiring someone to deal with the crossing and micro-vinification.

Membership

Stan has received an email from the conference registrations along with a list of businesses that have not paid their memberships. Stan is working on contacting past members who have not paid their memberships along with commercial memberships who have not re-joined.

Greg is working on making PayPal friendlier with a fillable online form which should help with determining who has paid and is a current member.

Discussion was held on different ways for creating interest through different sized events across the state with the intention of increasing the awareness of ND wines.

Greg suggested developing a plaque that could be posted in ND wineries that would say something like: member of NDGWA. Greg will work on some prototypes of this. Greg will do a mockup of a couple of plaques and either email them out to the board or bring them to the next board meeting.

Request of vendors to advertise on our web page. The recommendations from Flint advertising was to have businesses not be members but instead just let them pay to advertise.

Marketing – targeted Facebook ads will start this coming Friday. The logo revisions will be available soon. This will be a complete logo change. It will be sent out when the new designs are available.

Recent changes in the ND Ag grant – we now have 12,100 dollars with a match by the association of \$1200 to use between now and June 2017. The grant amount was \$8000 with an \$800 match. It's been cut by 50 percent to now \$4000. The funds will be used to fund logo changes, starting a quarterly newsletter, and continuing the social media campaign through June of 2017. Discussion was of who will write and about what topics for the newsletter. The newsletter may start in the third quarter. Randy asked who our target audience is since this may determine what kind of articles should be put in the newsletter. It will primarily be for members as well as to encourage nonmembers to join or be informed. Practical information will be supplied for commercial and home growers. This will be a quarterly newsletter.

Education / Events

Fluffy Fields event – Kevin reported that there will be a local chef hired. The chef will cost \$10 per hour. We can do the meal for \$16 or more cost and then add on enough to make some money. We will look at price around \$45.00 for members and \$55 for non-members. A menu was discussed about several kinds of meats or fish and local fruits / vegetables. A name is still needed for the event. ND Wine 'n Dine was discussed as was Trellis to Table. Mark will check to see if ND Wine 'N Dine is taken. Harlene says where the Cork meets the Fork.

For the event name, it was decided to use; ND Wine 'N Dine – Where the Cork meets the Fork.

Annual Conference and Meeting

Greg said he could not find any dates from any hotels in Bismarck that had dates available in January. The Ramada is available for February 4th and 5th. It was discussed that possibly having the annual meeting and conference at different time of the year where we could have tours along with moving it around the state. We have decided not to return to the Radisson. June 9th and 10th were discussed as possible dates. This would allow us to skip Father's day weekend. We also discussed the weekend of June 23 and 24th. It was discussed that we separate out the meals and registration fees for the annual conference and meeting.

Greg moved we set the annual conference and meeting for June 23rd and 24th. With an option of June 9th and 10th. Randy seconded the motion. There was no discussion with –a voice vote took place and the motion carried.

We discussed having the meeting in the eastern part of the state since we will have had the previous event in Dickinson.

Greg will explore the venues in and around the area. We will work on the location and dates and then will decide on topics and presenters.

There was nothing new on regulatory or legislative issues to report.

The FFA award has been approved. Mark has contacted Don Thiel to see where Greg should send the Award money of \$300.00

The budget was discussed and a copy is included in the minutes. A copy of the budget is included in the email that Mark sent out prior to the meeting.

Petiole testing was discussed. One petiole test per member will be allowed. The member will be reimbursed after having paid for the test. Discussion was to have the NDSU Soils lab test for petiole testing. AgVise has been used in the past. A motion was made by Harlene and seconded by Greg to provide \$360 for one petiole test per member. Harlene will check with the NDSU Soils lab to see if they will be able to do the soil tests. The same rules will apply as in the past wherein the member will first pay for the petiole test and then will submit to the association for reimbursement.

New Business

No new business was brought up.

Next board meeting will be at Fluffy Fields on September 9th or 10th prior to the event.

Mark will check with the Dickinson Comfort Inn for a block of rooms.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58pm.