

## NDGWA Board Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2017

3:00pm

Loftsgard Hall, NDSU Campus, Fargo, ND

**The meeting was called to order** by President Mark Vining.

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

Members attending by conference call: Randy Albrecht, Bob Thaden

Members absent: Alan Verbitsky,

Guests attending:

### **Secretary's Report**

Greg Cook moved to approve the minutes and Randy Albrecht seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Greg gave a brief update; we've received several new membership applications. Stan has been encouraging members to renew whose memberships have lapsed. Nothing has changed as far as new expenses or expenditures since the last meeting. Steve moved to waive the treasurers report, and Stan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

### **Old Business**

Several members have renewed. A motion to waive The Treasurer's report. Steve moved and Stan Seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

**Membership** – Stan has sent out about 50 letters to past members encouraging them to renew their membership. Several renewals have occurred since doing this. Bob suggested we send an invitation to the aronia growers to encourage them to become members of the association. At the end of this month, Mark will contact Opie (Aaron Opedahl) to ask for the list of Aronia growers so we can send them invitations to join the association.

**Research** - Bob reported that he was able to harvest enough of the ND 213 grapes to make about 3 liters of wine. The 05427 grapes had an odd taste initially which has now disappeared and now there will be enough to produce about 2 liters of wine for this year.

Harlene reported that harvesting of grapes is taking place at the Minot REC.

The weekend of November 5<sup>th</sup> is going to be planned for tasting of the micro-vinified ND varieties in Fargo. The wine tasting may take place at the NDSU Alumni Center.

**Grant Proposals** are due October 13. The presentations are scheduled for the 20<sup>th</sup> of November.

Marketing

Greg Cook moved to move forward to write a grant proposal using Flint Communications to write a grant proposal with a focus on web design, social media campaign, event advertising, and wine evaluation at the Annual Conference. Stan seconded the motion and it passed by voice vote as a resource.

**Annual meeting and Conference** – Will be held February 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, in Minot at the Grant Hotel.

Topics, sessions, speakers that were discussed:

Tom Plocher has offered to do a session on intellectual property and trademarking.

Deb Kinzel suggested doing a program on event contracts; this could also include grower / winemaker contracts.

Possibly we could have three breakout sessions for businesses of 30 minutes each to equal 1 ½ hours.

A General session could feature *aronia and fruit session*. *Aronia may be highlighted but all fruits could be included.*

Breakouts: For Winemaking / grape growing

1 *So2 and O2* - Drew Horton

2. Converting from VSP to High Wire

General sessions - four on Friday (1/2 day) and five on Saturday

1. Welcome and Ag Commissioner

2. Different fermentation methods with hybrid grapes regarding skin contact processes and different types of yeasts - Drew Horton

3. Emerging Pests and threats – SWD, Japanese Beetle

4. Fruit and berry growing to optimize quality

5. NDSU germplasm enhancement program update.

6. Blending Wines - Carissa Bailey Sachs – spoke in Montana on Judging Wine with WSET and also Wine Testing Critique using WSET

7. Wine tasting

8. Future-ing for the ND Grape and Wine industry - Possibly Raeann Killen could speak on this

9. Winemaking with Fruits, Grapes, and Mead – this could be a panel discussion

Themed tables were discussed where a leader at each table would talk about a topic during a meal.

Banquet – will be offered as an optional fee. A dinner speaker could do a presentation about wine trivia, wine-ology, wine-opoly. The Farmers Market group could be invited to the banquet on Saturday night since it is a separate registration fee.

The wine competition will be held on Friday night.

The Wine 'n Dine Event is scheduled for October 21<sup>st</sup>. The Prairie Roots Food Co-op group is excited to partner with us on this.

About 60 people are the maximum number of attendees. A potential price is \$60 – 65 for members and \$70 – 75 for non-members.

A new winery owned by Bob and Deb Grosz, will soon open by Colfax. The winery is called, Dakota Vine and is located close to Crooked Lanes farms. They will be partnering with Crooked Lane Farms to use their event center. Cottonwood Cidery is also opening soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm

No date was set for the next meeting.

Submitted by Steve Sagaser

Secretary