### BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION



# Minutes General Meeting October 14, 2018 ROMA Hall, New Westminster, BC

1. Welcome to Serve it Right Meeting and Call to John McMaster

Order

2. Toast by Host Club – Italvino Wine Club Mike Roman

Approval of Agenda as modified
 Approval of November 4, 2017 Minutes
 Moved: Doug Markin. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bill Huva.
 Moved: Axel Kroitsch. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Larry McIntrye

Attendees:

Executive

President John McMaster - VAWA

Vice PresidentKevin Bramhoff - Chilliwack ZymurgySecretarySharon Bierd - Saanich Sommeliers - Absent

Treasurer John Matkovich - Vinovan

Chief Steward - 2019 Provincial Competition
Past President
National Director

Doiug Markin - Nanaimo Winemakers
Mike Leeper -Vinovan- Absent
Doug Markin - Nanaimo Winemakers

Director at Large Robert Martino
Director at Large Jonathan Klinck
Guild Master Mary Homer – Absent

**Appointed Positions:** 

Web Site John McMaster- VAWA

Archivist Robin McNeil Saanich Sommeliers Absent

Club Representative

Voting Attendee

Belcarra Wine Makers Rob Martino
Chilliwack Zymurgy Jonathan Klinck
Italvino Wine Club Mike Roman
Kamloops WineMaker's Assoc. James Pflanz
Langley Fermenters Axel Kroitsch
Nanaimo Winemakers Doug Markin
Saanich Sommeliers Colin Nicholson

Sunshine Coast Absent

VAWA Larry McIntrye
Vintners of Coquitlam Doug Martin
Vintners of North Van (Vinovan) Bill Huva
Number of Voting Members 10



Presidents Report - John McMaster

Welcome and thanks to Italvino and Mike Roman for hosting this meeting today and providing the toasting wine. Also thank you to Larry McIntyre and Bill Huva for providing ferry pickup for Vancouver Island members.

Treasurer's report - John Matkovich

Financial report attached at the end of the minutes.

### Comments:

- Club Dues are now due and must be paid by VinoVan's competition to be considered members in good standing.
- There are enough medals for at least one year.
- Motion to accept report by John Matkovich seconded by Axel Kroitsch. Passed unanimously.
- Following the acceptance of the Treasure's Report the following motion was made:

#### Motion:

Stand up a Committee to investigate alternative methods of funding and organizing the Provincial and National competitions Moved: Doug Markin Seconded: Jonathan Klinck Action: Doug Markin will establish a committee to explore options and make recommendations to deal with the issue of smaller clubs hosting large competitions and report back to the next general meeting.

Provincial Competition 2019 Chief Stewart's - Doug Markin, Nanaimo Winemakers

- Provincial Competition will be held on May 24 and 25, at the Cavallotti Hall in Nanaimo.
- The budget for the competition will be presented at the March meeting.
- Motion to accept report Doug Markin seconded by Larry McIntrye. Passed unanimously.

National Director's report (AWC) - Doug Markin's

2018 was the first time (in my memory) that BC and Ontario were entitled to enter the same number of wines (65) in the AWC competition. Nova Scotia entered their allotted number of entries, Manitoba none(Club folded due to lack of membership) and Alberta only entered half of their allotted entries (not sure what happened there).

I have the great pleasure of announcing that Axel Kroitzsch of the Langley Fermenters won top honors as Canadian Amateur Winemaker of the Year for 2018. Congratulations Axel on a job well done.

BCAWA took top provincial honors this year with an impressive 17 Gold medals, 37 Silver medals, 9 Bronze medals and one honorable mention. Members of BCAWA's clubs did very well this year at the AWC competition held in Wolfeville Nova Scotia on 25 August 2018. BCAWA entered 65 of 65 eligible entries and received 63 medals and one honorable mention with the 65<sup>th</sup> wine very close to an honorable mention as well.

Cathy and I, along with Rick and Mary Homer travelled to Nova Scotia to assist with judging at the AWC competition. There were several judges from Ontario at the competition as well and the Chief Steward partnered up a judge from each of the three provinces (BC, ON, NS). Judging in threesomes



vice pairs made for more consistent judging (in my opinion) based on my observations at the 2018 AWC Competition.

The NS Amateur Winemakers Association uses a 100 point system for judging, somewhat different than the 20 point modified UC Davis scoring system that members of the BC Guild of Wine Judges are used to. The judges scores had to be within 10 points of each other, if not, there was discussion until an agreement on the score was reached. If no consensus was reached then the Chief Steward settled the issue.

The scores of the three judges were averaged (once they were within 10 points of each other) to achieve a final score for the wine.

The Chief Steward went to great lengths to ensure there was a good environment for judging the wines. Food preparation for lunch was done at someone's house and the food was brought in to the hall just prior to the lunch break. Smokers were careful to smoke at the far end of the parking lot and did not come near the judges after having a smoke. The only outside factor that affected the competition was all the smoke from the BC forest fires. Go figure.

• Motion to accept report Axel Kroitsch Seconded: Bill Huva. Passed unanimously

Guild Master's report - Mary Homer (absent) – appended at the end of these minutes. Read into minutes by John McMaster.

Motion to accept report Doug Markin seconded Jonathan Klinck. Passed unanimously

# Unfinished business.

Review BCAWA Classes in comparison to AWC Classes and Finalize BCAWA Handbook. – John McMaster

A review of BCAWA and AWC classes and efforts to identify gaps was undertaken by John Matkovich, Clem Joyce and Axel Kroitsch. There have been changes, which are in the BCAWA handbook, made to parameters, descriptors and technical characteristics which bring the classes in line with characteristics found in current commercial wines.

The changes will be brought forward to the AWC, by John McMaster and John Matkovich, for consideration.

There will be a Club Z class. This class will be used in competitions where there is a need for a special class for the competition ex: Zinfandel Club Crush at the 2019 Provincials. Clubs will be able to use this class if required for their competitions.

The BCAWA President will ask the Guild Master to explain the process used when a non BCGWJ person is deemed to be "equivalent to a wine judge". How is the person deemed qualified?

Clubs are asked to read the revised manual and be prepared to vote on it in the revised format.

2018 Provincial Crush Update - Rob Martino

- 6 tonnes of Syrah from Sheridan Vineyards were distributed. Some people didn't get grapes because of the decision making process.
- Wine made will be judged in the 2020 Provincial Competition.



# Okanagan BCAWA Club

• Mike Roman indicated that Ricardo would help.

### **New Business**

2019 AWC Competition - Club Volunteer Required

- VinoVan and VAWA are two clubs that have expressed interest in holding the competition. These two clubs will discuss which club will hold the competition.
- If other clubs are interested, they need to contact John McMaster as soon as possible.

How BCAWA determines the Provincial Winemaker of the Year – Submitted by VAWA Moved: Create a committee to discuss the method of calculating Wine Maker of the Year for the Provincial Competition. Moved: Larry McIntyre Seconded Rob Martino Vote: Yes 6 No 3 passed.

Action: Larry McIntyre will form a committee and report back to BCAWA at the next general meeting.

### 2019 Club Crush

To ensure sufficient time to plan for the advertising and purchase of the grapes, it was determined by the members at the meeting that the 2019 Club Crush will be Dineen Riesling from Washington State. If 5 tonnes are ordered, the members should be able to get a reasonable price for the grapes.

This Club Crush will be judged in the 2020 Provincial Competition. Moved: Doug Markin  $2^{nd}$ : Doug Martin Passed.

Next Meeting March 10, 2019

Location: Roma Hall (TBC)



# REPORT FROM GUILD MASTER MARY HOMER BC GUILD OF WINE JUDGES OCTOBER 14, 2018

# The report contains new and updated information since our last report of March 18, 2018:

# **MONTHLY TASTINGS:**

We completed our tasting year with our AGM in June 2018 which took place in Victoria BC. Members from each of the 3 Chapters were in attendance. After a summer hiatus in July and August, we commenced our new tasting year in September. We continue to have trainees or newly certified Judges prepare the presentations with the support and mentorship of senior Judges. This has provided an improved learning opportunity for the Presenters and has been of benefit to all members (and guests) that attend the tastings.

We have increased our monthly budget to allow for some increased spending for monthly tastings and further increased spending for specialized wine tastings.

This year, we welcome Roger Ford as the new Chapter Steward for the Mainland. As well, a new Chapter Steward will be voted in this week for the Nanaimo Chapter. Our thanks to Sam Hauck and to James Waring for their past leadership as Chapter Stewards.

#### **WEBSITE:**

Our thanks to Sam Hauck as our webmaster for his continued work in keeping the website updated as materials are made available.

### WINE JUDGE CERTIFICATION COURSE:

Rick Homer and Axel Kroitzsch are taking a much deserved reprieve from teaching the Accelerated Wine Judge Certification course during this current tasting year. They will review and consider whether or not a need exists for another one to take place in 2020. Anyone interested in taking this course should count the Guild Educator: Rick Homer at RickinVictoria@shaw.ca to register their interest.

# GROWTH IN THE BC GUILD OF WINE JUDGES:

In support of the newly-certified wine Judges from Chilliwack, the location of the monthly tastings for the Mainland Chapter has changed to Surrey. This makes attending the monthly tastings more accessible for these newly-certified Judges, granting them the opportunity to build on their tasting portfolio.

# **BCAWA MEMBER CLUBS:**

The BC Guild of Wine Judges was originally created to support the BC Amateur Winemakers' Association and we, as an organization, continue in this pursuit.

We welcome members from BCAWA wine clubs to participate in our monthly tastings, as members or as guests. Your participation and support is appreciated! As well, we are happy to welcome any such members that wish to begin their journey to becoming certified wine judges.

## IN CLOSING:

Our current focus is in ensuring each of our three Chapters has a healthy membership of active members and look forward to supporting wine competitions hosted by BCAWA wine clubs and judging other wines as our schedules permit.

In closing, I wish each BCAWA member a successful year of winemaking!

Cheers, Mary Homer Guild Master - BC Guild of Wine Judges Tel: 250 384 7898 E-mail: MaryinVictoria@shaw.ca