

British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association
Minutes of Executive Meeting
January 27th, 2005

ITEM

ACTION

1. Welcome by the President

President Helmut Berner welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 7.34pm, advising the members that Axel resigned due to work pressures and that he had asked Helmut to take over as President.

2. Attendance

In attendance by teleconference - Helmut Berner, John Matkovich, , Moira Jaatteenmaki ,Brian Nokleby, Wayne Crossen, Sandy Grindlay and Hans Operman, George Gibson and Bill Pearson. Absent:, Rick Homer.

3. Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the Agenda:
RCMP membership and beer in wine competitions.

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved/Seconded *George Gibson/John Matkovich*
"To accept the minutes of the September 21st, 2004 as circulated.
Carried.

5. Business Arising from Minutes

Item 11.4 John advised that this item with Spagnols had been resolved and that Spagnols would find alternative solutions to dealing with this issue.

6. Financial Statements

John has circulated his financial statement. Several members have not received it. Some highlights in the statements include new medals ordered, donation made in memory of Jean Howe. He has 100 registrations for the seminar and anticipates net costs to BCAWA will be about \$700

John to circulate financial statement to all members again.

Moved/Seconded *John Matkovich/Sandy Grindlay*
"To accept the report of the Treasurer"
Carried

7. Guild Finances

Bill said that of the \$2400 advance from BCAWA, about \$1200 remains. He had circulated a letter with 2 proposals for the dissolution of the Guild Executive and assistance from BCAWA with the expenses of the Guild.. He would need BCAWA assurance that these proposals are acceptable.

Proposal 1 : The BCAWA Executive is willing to assume the responsibility of administering the BC Guild of Wine Judges.

Proposal 2 : BCAWA is willing to subsidize guild operations as described.

Proposal 1 essentially asks should the Guild Executive continue to exist or should the

BCAWA Treasurer and Secretary assume responsibilities for the Guild. There was considerable discussion as to how BCAWA and the Guild would operate; the independence of each body and that it is not the intent of the BCAWA to take over the Guild. Is BCAWA willing to assist the Guild to a larger extent? – administration and/or operations. It was noted that annual costs of maintenance sessions is approximately \$3000.

ITEM

ACTION

Moved/Seconded

John Matkovich/Wayne Crossen

The BCAWA Executive is willing to assume responsibility for administrative costs of the BC Guild of Wine Judges as an item in its annual budget.

This would mean that the Guild Executive would remain in place as is. Discussion moved to the operating expenses of the Guild namely training and maintenance sessions. It is approximately \$190 per session for training and funds are still available from previous BCAWA funding. Further funding from BCAWA for training and/or maintenance would require a budget from the Guild. It was agreed that the Guild fills an essential role to both BCAWA and its member clubs.

Moved/Seconded

George Gibson/John Matkovich

In recognition of the essential role of the BC Guild of Wine Judges in the operations of BCAWA, that BCAWA assist with the maintenance sessions of the Guild to a maximum of \$1200 annually.

Bill to take both motions to the Guild for discussion

8. Report of the Chief Steward

Wayne reported that the drop off points are set. Judges have been selected and letters will be sent out shortly. Friday evening will be a wine tasting with four local wineries participating. Tickets are printed and ready for distribution in February. There was discussion re the subsidizing of judges dinners, travel costs for judges and who should receive this or not. A compromise was reached such that judges from VI can receive either dinner or ferry fare while lower mainland judges will have no subsidies. George raised the matter of BCAWA covering the cost of the competition medals. It was agreed that this item would be attractive to clubs re hosting the event and that it recognizes the fact that this is a BCAWA competition.

Moved/Seconded

George Gibson/Wayne Crossen

*That BCAWA cover the entire cost of the Provincial Competition medals.
Carried*

9. National Director's Report

George read the following report.

The AWC Directors continue their slow progress towards revising the AWC Handbook. Quebec has rejoined the AWC and a second club has appeared in Nova Scotia. The 2005 Nationals will be held in London, Ontario on a date not yet established. It looks as if the medals will be produced in Ontario this year and at a somewhat lower cost. There has been no word from RJ Spagnols regarding continued

sponsorship. I suggested in November that the AWC website, <http://www.littlefatwino.com/awc.html>, contain a link to "RJ Spagnols' AWC Sponsorship directing the reader to a brief writeup with photos of the medal - front and back - and something like "The Amateur Winemakers of Canada extends its sincere thanks to RJ Spagnols who have absorbed the cost of producing the almost 500 medals awarded from 2001 - the first year of AWC medal judging - through 2004. RJ Spagnols' generous role as official sponsors has enabled AWC to provide tangible recognition for the highest quality of wines, brews and ciders made each year by our many member competitors from across Canada." or whatever better verbiage you can generate. Then draw it to Susan's attention to confirm it meets their needs.

ITEM

ACTION

Unfortunately, in my opinion, AWC President Brian Lundeen decided that was hasty and that he should determine whether RJ Spagnols actually wanted to be acknowledged on the AWC website. Nothing appears to have happened.

Prompted by the hope I might be able to identify medallists who had used RJ Spagnols' products I searched the 2004 Competition results for origin of ingredients. Most disappointing was the discovery that 75 of 152 entries in table wines, dessert, sparkling, and social classes lacked sufficient information to allow determination of origin of ingredients. (That number does not include other entries whose origin I was able to pinpoint by a process of elimination even though they lacked precise information.)

In BC we asked for "*Main ingredients, percentages, vintage, origins, treatments*". Of the 44 BC entries in those classes, 16 lacked specific data – mostly origin or vintage. In Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba and Nova Scotia entrants were asked for "*Principal Ingredients and Vintage*" and 59 of 108 failed to identify ingredients sufficiently (AB – 11/30, MB – 16/24, NS – 3/5, ON – 29/47).

Suppliers like to know how their products fare in competition. This year there was no way to determine how well the AWC sponsor, RJ Spagnols juices, kits or grapes had performed. One interesting fact did emerge – the winning and gold medal Dessert wine was a Brew King Selection Riesling kit from Alberta. Another was that of 16 kit wines submitted by Alberta winemakers, 12 won medals including the Gold and a Silver and 11 were for Brew King Selection products. I hope this year we can get the message across to competitors. It would help if clubs routinely required and published such data. Why the apparent reluctance?

10. Host for 2006 Provincial

None in place yet. It was suggested that Helmut approach Saanich.

Helmut to ask Saanich re 2006 Provincials

11. New Business

11.1 Council Meeting

Due to various competition dates as well as the need to wait for the lawyer to complete the revision of the Bylaws, the date of March 20th was chosen for this, hosted by

Helmut to draw up Agenda

Saanich.

11.2 Beer in Competitions

At a recent competition, the RCMP club entered 24 beer. There was discussion re the appropriateness of beer in wine competitions with the consensus that it was an individual club decision.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9.23pm

Moira Jaatteenmaki,
Secretary

BCAWA National Director Report to BCAWA Executive January 4, 2005

The Motion proposed by the President, Brian Lundeen, to change and amplify the brew classes in the National Competition has received 4 votes in favour and one abstention. Its fate depends on how Quebec votes but there has been no indication of when or whether they intend to vote.

Once that issue is settled, I intend to propose two new classes, White Concentrate and Red Concentrate. Since the new medal sponsor is Winexperts, those classes should be of particular interest to them. You may recall that I tried to introduce them when RJ Spagnols became sponsor but a survey of BCAWA members failed to support the idea.

This year's competition will be held in the province of Quebec on either August 26 or September 9.

John Starr has resigned as Nova Scotia Director and been replaced by Marta Mihoff, an AWO judge who has moved to Nova Scotia recently.

There has been general agreement with the concept of full ingredient labeling but differences of opinion as to whether competitors who fail to comply should be disqualified.

George Gibson
National Director

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Executive Meeting
September 29, 2005

1. Welcome by President

President Helmut Berner welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order. 7:35PM

2. Attendance

Helmut Berner, John Matkovich, Sandy Grindlay, George Gibson, Walter Frith, Shelagh Frith, by phone Rick Homer, Bill Pearson, Murray Mackie. Regrets, Joseph Cantafio

3. Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

Judges Guild representative, Bill Pearson's report.

Address the issue of President sending out the agenda instead of the secretary.

Beer categories in competition.

Kamloops Winemakers Association's new constitution.

4. Approval of Minutes of Executive meeting, January 27, 2005

Accepted

5. Business arising from minutes

None

6. Financial Statement

John circulated the financial statement by email. No educational seminars are budgeted for this year. A volunteer is needed to organize these events.

John moved *the treasurer's report be accepted*. Helmut seconded the motion.

Carried

7. National Directors Report

George continues to encourage full ingredient labeling at the AWC. He believes confirmation of the origin of the grapes or juice amongst the winners could be used to gain sponsorships from companies supplying these products.

George moved *the National Directors Report be accepted*. John seconded

8. Provincial Steward's Report

Rick expressed difficulty in finding a place for the annual competition. Norway House in Victoria has been secured for May 6th 2006 but it is too small to have a dance following the banquet. The issues of a liquor permit and insurance where home made wine is served are the problems BCAWA faces when renting facilities. Rick asked George to find out how other communities handle this situation. Would a cash bar alleviate these problems?

Helmut moved *the executive support Saanich Sommeliers for the AGM to be held at Norway House*. Sandy seconded Carried

9. Judges Guild Report

Bill Pearson reported [Bill Pearson] that a "review for trainees" session for trainees was [Bill Pearson] not scheduled by any of the chapters due to lack of interest. September attendance is low with only four persons [Bill Pearson] from the island attending [Bill Pearson] the double tasting in North Vancouver. Bill suggested the Guild may cut back to one [Bill Pearson] double session [Bill Pearson] per year instead of [Bill Pearson] the current three.

10. Issues for Discussion

a) Underhill Trophy: The Underhill trophy for the best BC red was not awarded last year. Helmut suggested a member of the executive accept responsibility for tabulating the results in club class reds and for the trophy presentation. Definitions for qualifying entries are in the handbook. Sandy and Walter volunteered for the 2005/06 season.

b) BCABA Calendar of Functions: John will put a BCABA schedule of events together for the 2005/06 season. He will ask Joseph Cantafio for assistance.

c) Kamloops Invitation: Bob Jennejohn from the Kamloops Winemakers invited the executive to hold the winter council meeting in Kamloops prior to their Annual judging March 18th/06. The executive declined the request because of the difficulty getting there. Helmut suggested organizing a group of Judges to go to Kamloops for the event. Bill and Helmut will poll the judges and notify Kamloops winemakers of the decision. A cc will be sent to all members of the executive.

d) Tie Breaker: Wayne Crossen's comments from the provincial competition stated that a clear guideline for breaking a tie should be outlined in the handbook. John and George will work on addressing the problem and report to the executive by the May meeting.

11. Fall Council Meeting

Kathy Jones of the Coquitlam Vintners proposed hosting the meeting November 6th. The executive asked Helmut to move the date to October 29th or 30th or November 13th if possible.

12. President or Secretary to mail the agenda?

It was decided that the secretary should continue to distribute the agenda in consultation with the president.

13. Beer entries in competitions

Much discussion ensued on the pros and cons of having beer entries in wine competitions. Murray will talk to the RCMP about their expectations and report back to the executive. Helmut's comments can be read in the "Grapevine".

14. Constitution

Kamloops winemakers on the advice given by the BCABA lawyer last spring have updated their constitution. They have asked that BCABA accept responsibility for the cost of a review of the revision by BCABA's lawyer. After some discussion the executive agreed to have the new constitution perused by the lawyer at BCABA's cost. John will send the executive members a copy of the revision.

15. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was moved to adjourn at 9:35 PM

Moved by Murray/seconded Rick

Unapproved minutes

Shelagh Frith, Secretary

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Council Meeting
Sunday, November 13th 2005

1. Welcome by President

President Helmut Berner welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order. 10:15 AM. **2. Toast by the Host Club**

Maurice Hamilton of the host club, Vintners of Coquitlam, welcomed the delegates and offered a toast in memory of Gordon Garlinge.

3. Attendance

Voting members in attendance were: Helmut Berner, **Vancouver**, George Gibson, **Nanaimo**, Walter Frith, **Belcarra**, John Ayris, **Chilliwack**, Kent Curley, **North Vancouver**, Maurice Hamilton, **Coquitlam**, Joseph Cantafio, **Italian Canadian Winemakers**. Total attendance was 12.

4. Approval of Agenda

John Matkovich added Education for discussion under new business.
Agenda was approved.

5. Approval of the AGM minutes of May 8th 2005

Moved/ seconded Walter Frith/George Gibson

6. Business arising from the minutes of the AGM

None

7. Correspondence

A letter from Tom Robinson was received requesting an update on club contacts.
ACTION: John Matkovich will forward a copy when the list is completed.

8. Treasurers Report

John Matkovich tabled the treasurer's report. He reminded those present that only half the member clubs have submitted their dues.

a) Education Program: John Matkovich noted that BCAWA includes \$1500 in the budget for education purposes. He asked for volunteers from any club to help plan an educational forum.

Motion: to accept the treasurer's report as presented

Moved/seconded John Matkovich/George Gibson

9. National Directors Report

George tabled his report at the meeting, also circulated by email.

10. Provincial Steward's Report

Rick Homer was not present. Helmut reported the provincial competition and AGM will be held at Norway House May 5 to 7. Norway House is the only facility available without a liquor license. John Matkovich suggested BCAWA take action to address this issue ASAP.

Motion: to strike a committee to look at all aspects of responsible drinking, to address the issue of homemade wines being served at events and how BCAWA and member clubs can avoid personal liability in the event of an accident.

Moved/seconded George Gibson/John Matkovich

ACTION: John Matkovich and Joseph Cantafio will form a committee.

11. Guild Master's Report

Bill Pearson was not present. A report was not submitted.

12. New Business

a) Vintners of Coquitlam have presented a club trophy to the BCAWA to be named the Garlinge Trophy for the club that accumulates the most points in provincial competition. Guidelines for the new trophy will be ready for the spring council meeting. Chilliwack Zymurgy also expressed interest in a Garlinge Trophy.

b) Joseph Cantafio suggested the competition handbook be available to member clubs. Presently, the handbook is being revised and will be ready in approximately 3 months. The handbook is also available on BCAWA website.

c) George Gibson suggested a link on the web listing all trophies and winners.

Motion: to elevate BCAWA's profile that all the trophies be photographed and all previous winners be listed for publication on BCAWA's web page.

Moved/seconded George Gibson/John Ayris

ACTION: John Matkovich offered to photograph and list the winners at the next AGM.

d) George discussed the possibilities of an electronic newsletter.

Motion: that BCAWA put into place an electronic newsletter for more rapid dissemination of information.

Moved/seconded George Gibson/Kent Curley

13. Motion to adjourn

Moved/seconded Helmut Berner/Joseph Cantafio

Time 11:40AM

Helmut thanked Coquitlam for hosting this meeting.

Next meeting tentatively March 19th ,2006

Unapproved minutes

Shelagh Frith, secretary