



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

Membership Meeting

January 25, 2014 @ 10:00 am

Welcome by President

Sandy Bellows

Thank you to Host Club

Sandy Bellows

Approval of Agenda

Rick moved: Alex seconded- Adopted and Carried
Unanimously

Approval of AGM Minutes

Colin moved John McMaster 2nd– Moved to Accept
and Carried Unanimously

Attendees – Executive

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Past President
6. Chief Steward 2014 Provincials
7. National Director
8. Director at Large
9. Director at Large
10. Guild Master

Sandy Bellows
Doug Markin
Sharon Bierd
John Matkovich
Rick Homer
Rick Homer
Axel Kroitzsch
Ron Thorne
John McMaster
Sam Hauck

Other Roles Supporting the Executive

Web Site

John McMaster

Archivist (Appointed)

Robin McNeil

Attendees:

Mary Homer – Saanich Sommeliers

Larry McIntyre - VAWA

Colin Nicholson - Saanich Sommeliers

Joe Kugler - VAWA



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

Reports

Treasurer John Matkovich

- Copies of the Treasurer Report was distributed to the Executive and Clubs were provided with one copy at the meeting
- Budget Highlights:
 - Medals are purchased on an as required base and are available to clubs for cost. There should be sufficient medals for this year's competition and next year more medals will be required.
 - Estimated that Victoria will make \$1000
 - Balance is \$12,000 and forecast is that there will be a carry forward of \$10,800
 - Bank Statements are available to view at John's house and will be brought to the quarterly meetings

Moved: Axel Kroitzsch; Seconded: John McMaster

Provincial Chief Steward

A Summary of the Report from Rick Homer, Provincial Chief Steward:

Date: May 2 (Meet and Greet) May 3 (Judeing and Supper/Dance)

Location: May 2 - Starling Lane Winery; May 3 Prospect Lake Hall

Accommodations: Billeting is offered to out of town guests with a preference given to Judges. Ken Stepushyn is the Coordinator. The Howard Johnson Hotel is close by and has reasonable rates.

Insurance: Liability insurance has been arranged and glass rentals have been reserved.

Ticket Prices: Tickets will be \$62 per person. This will provide for a break even for the event. The silent auction will be the profit.

Ticket Sales: The hall can accommodate seating for 120. Mary Homer will be contacting clubs for ticket sales.

Supper and Dance: Moonlight Catering is the caterer for the Saturday evening gourmet buffet and

Music has been booked. It is canned music by the same DJ that did the last provincial competition in Victoria.

Committees: The various committees are fully staffed and are busy working on their duties.

Silent Auction: Items are beginning to trickle in. We welcome items for the silent auction!

Competition Notice: The notice for the competition will be posted soon and the online registration will go live on March 10 and close on April 18.



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

Judging: I will be contacting the various BCGWJ's chapters soon to solicit judges.

Moved John Matkovich; Second Larry McIntyre

National Director Axel Kroitzsch

There is no President for AWC – major duties are the National Competition and Budget. Anyone can apply. There is information on the web site for the role and Club Members are asked to canvass their groups for interest. There is advantage to have an AWC present from BC.

The Archives have been recently reviewed and scanned and are available to the Executive due to privacy concerns.

Guild Master Sam Hauck

Nanaimo group has stabilized; Victoria is stable and Mainland Chapter is trying out different locations.

Web Steward John McMaster

Summary of highlights:

Average number of visits to the web site per month are 10,000 visits per month;

Total number of annual visits 122,592 with 98,000 unique visitors annually.

75 % of the hits came from Google and the most common words used to search “wine”; phrase “words to describe wine”;

The BCAWA site is used as a source for documents that help people making wine.

Suggestion: It might be worth reviewing those documents for users and consider putting basic wine making articles.

Old Business

BCAWA News via Alternative Multimedia Forums

There was discussion about the media used to get the message of BCAWA out.

Action: A Communications Committee will be created and this topic will be referred to the committee.



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

VAWA Motion to BCAWA By-Laws

In May 2013, The Vancouver Amateur Winemakers Association put forward a motion to amend the BCAWA By-Laws to provide that no person elected or appointed as a director shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself in the office if he or she has served in the office for two consecutive one-year terms.

Specifically:

- Insert paragraph 5.8.1: “No member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive one-year terms. Serving for part of a term shall, in this regard, not be considered a whole term.”

At the January 24, 2014 meeting, VAWA provided the following text:

- 1) Amend Part 5 by inserting after Section 5.8:

5.8.1 No member shall hold the same office for more than two full terms in succession. Serving for part of a term shall, in this regard, not be considered a whole term.

- 2) Amend Part 5, section 5.9:

Current Wording is:

5.9 The directors may at any time and from time to time appoint a member as a director to fill a vacancy in the directors.

(a) A director so appointed hold office only until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting of the Association, but is eligible for re-election at the meeting.

Amend wording to:

5.9 The directors may at any time and from time to time appoint a member as a director to fill a vacancy in the directors.

(a) A director so appointed hold office only until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting of the Association, but is eligible for re-election at the meeting. **The period served as a replacement Director is not included when determining the maximum term limit for a Director.**

Club Representatives were canvassed:

Saanich Sommeliers – Discussed the motion at their AGM. The club consensus was that it was not obvious how it would improve getting members to step up and take on the new roles.

Langley Fermenters – Discussed the motion and came to the same decision that Saanich Sommeliers came to.

VAWA – the proposal doesn't mean that the position would remain vacant. VAWA works under these bylaws. This is the third year in a row there is a full executive slate. VAWA has found that if the Nominating Committee was effective then there will be full slate of members. If this bylaw is in place, it is not so hard for members to step forward. Maybe the clubs can do a round robin in providing Executive Members to BCAWA. VAWA will provide additional information to the Executive to distribute as information to the clubs.

BACAWA –



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

- There is need to ensure that the terms of reference for roles and responsibilities need to be posted on the Intranet so that members understand what they would be taking on if they accept the positions.
- The spirit of the motion is supported. Do Clubs need this for the health of the Clubs?
- Current executive discussed the challenges about finding replacements for BCAWA Executive Members.
- If there is no need perceived by the Clubs to provide executive members to BCAWA, then there will be no interest which in term asks why is BCAWA needed.
- It is recognized that there are only two clubs represented by Club Reps. Individuals in Executive roles do not count as Club Reps.
- Clubs need to consider 5.8 along with the motion.

Action:

- Tabled pending a redraft by VAWA.

Financial support to BCGWJ training

Discussion:

How many individuals are interested? Victoria – 3; Vancouver – 3; Nanaimo – has not responded. Canvass clubs and BCGWJ to see who is interested.

Alex will provide an Outline to BCAWA for review.

Decisions regarding the funding of this will be made by the BCAWA Executive.

Sponsorship for Provincial Competition –

Discussion will be moved to Communications Committee

Proposed change to Social Class description

Technical Characteristics for Social Class do not reflect the current market of Social Style wines.

Sam presented information on the market comparisons.

Rosé can be included in the class and it is suggested that members be reminded that it is possible.

How does this fit in with the National Classes?

It was discussed that the name of the class should change to Off Dry or Social Off Dry.

Accept Research under advisement, consult with Nationals and propose to the Nationals.

BCGWJ joint training session

June is the target month. The session will be similar to Nanaimo – this will be open to all (clubs, Judges, and others).

Change of BCAWA name

- This will be discussed in new business.

Action Items:

- Clubs are asked to:



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

- Discuss this within their clubs to determine interest and report back to the next meeting.

Club Mentoring

- By offering wine making mentorship, clubs will be able to increase the club members.
- VAWA has done a really good of their mentorship program.

Post BCAWA Minutes of Meetings on the Web Site

- Completed

New Business

Communications Committee

There are members on the committee: Jack, Joe Kugler VAWA, Sam Hauck, Doug, and Sandy. If you would like to be a member of a communication team, please send additional names to Sandy.

Archivist Report

Robin has taken on the role of the archivist. There are 7 large boxes of information that contains a lot of information that people will not look again. Retain only minutes of Executive Council, AGM and items of interest ex: 1st BC competition handbook and a few pictures which will result in one box (approx). Propose adding a complete set of Grapevines. The goal will be to eventually produce an electronic copy.

Robin will proceed and will reach out to clubs if documentation is missing.

Victoria Fermenters Guild

A member of the Victoria Fermenters Guild is a member of the Victoria Chapter of BC Guild of Wine Judges (BCGWJ). The Victoria Fermenters Guild is a member of Fermenters Guild Trade Show. Discussions are underway to out to the Fermenters Guild and develop a relationship between the Guild, BCAWA and BCGWJ, possibly provide some education programs and maybe judge annual competitions for their organization by the BCGWJ. There is no intent to take away business from the UBrews.

Letters from Chilliwack

Chilliwack Group – submitted a letter that will be used as the foundation for the work of the Communication Committee. The letter contains information on the betterment of amateur wine making in BC. Sandy will approach the authors of the letter to join the Communications Committee as a means of moving these good suggestions forward.

Aroma Kit – Does BCAWA have one? Yes, talk to Axel.



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

Next Meeting – There will be an Executive Meeting on Monday March 24, 2014 (via conference call) at which time it will be determined if the meeting tentatively scheduled for March 30, 2013 is required.

Meeting Adjourned:

Moved by: Rick Homer; Seconded by: Axel Kroitzsch



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

Notice of Annual General Meeting - Victoria
Saturday May 3, 2014 @ 2:00 PM

Welcome by President
Toast by the Host
Approval of Agenda
Approval of AGM Minutes
Business Arising

Sandy Bellows

Moved: Axel Kroitzsch Seconded: Mike Leeper Carried
Moved: Axel Kroitzsch Seconded: Fran Ayris Carried

Voting Members:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Belcararra Winemakers | Doug Brain |
| Chilliwack Zymurgy | Fran Ayris |
| Italvino | Absent |
| Kamloops Winemakers | Absent |
| Langley Fermenters | Axel Kroitzsch |
| Nanaimo Winemakers | Absent |
| Saanich Sommeliers | Colin Nicholson |
| Sunshine Coast Winemakers | Gus Butt |
| VAWA (Vancouver Amateur Winemakers) | Larry McIntyre |
| Vinovan | Mike Leeper |
| Vintners of Coquitlam | Absent |

Reports

Treasurer John Matkovich (presented by John McMaster)

- 01-May-2014: Total Cash and Inventory: \$9,988.02 (Current Balance \$8,829.02 Inventory on hand \$1,159.00)
- Treasure’s report will be attached to the Minutes

Moved by: Larry McIntyre Seconded by: Axel Kroitzsch

Provincial Chief Steward Rick Homer

- The 2014 competition was a very successful competition. There were 327 entries and 2/3 of them medaled. The Dinner and Dance was a sellout (120 tickets sold). The retail value of the Silent Auction items is approximately \$9000.00. Credit Cards will be used to collect payment for Silent Auction Items. The Dinner and Dance tickets funded the meals, glasses, and venue (break-even costs) and the Silent Auction sales were the profit for the competition. It is estimated that BCAWA will receive between \$1000 and \$2000.
- *Suggestions for VAWA:* Follow the BCAWA Competition Guidelines to ensure a successful competition; book venue and catering early; get budget prepared in advance to determine ticket prices for supper and dance.



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

National Director Axel Kroitzsch

- It is not know which club will be holding the Nationals.
- AWC continues to look for a President. The terms of reference for the role of President are on the National Web Site.

Guild Master Sam Hauck

- Congratulations to the Saanich Sommeliers for a well run competition. It is noted that the judges were paired up for the day which helped keep the judging on track. Also the food was in a separate room which kept food smells out of the judging area.
- Regular Monthly Maintenance Sessions have been improving with a wide range of wines being included in the sessions (flawed/faulty to silver/gold).
- There is an Education Seminar being planned tentatively for late November. Location will likely be Vancouver. Sam will be seeking input on the topics for the session.

Old Business

Communications Committee – Getting the News Out

- A committee has been formed that will try to connect over the summer to out set goals and outline a plan
- Chilliwack Zymurgy has submitted a letter BCAWA Clubs will be asked to provide feedback at the September BCAWA Executive Meeting.
- A goal of BCAWA is to provide information to assist clubs to be successful.
- A discussion was held on the use of and types of medals used by clubs. A number of Clubs ask members to recycle the medals they no longer use.

Action Item: Vino Van will survey clubs to determine if there is interest to find a common supplier for medals with the intent to do a bulk purchase. *This information was sent to Clubs on June 10, 2014.*

Term of BCAWA Executive Members

Notice of Motion

Action Item: The summary of the VAWA notice of motion is attached to these minutes and will be distributed to clubs.

Funding Support for BCGWJ Training

Motion: That BCAWA donate \$2000 to assist with the financing of the Wine Judge training program. The BCAWA Treasurer will create a special account for the training program. The funds are to be used for the following: Course materials, travel expenses for the instructors and other miscellaneous expenses. The students to be subsidized in the following manner: If a student is a member of both the BCGWJ and BCAWA, 50% of their registration fee would be paid. If they are only a member of one of the associations then 25% of their registration fee would be paid.

Moved by: Fran Ayris Seconded by: Axel Kroitzsch

Discussion: There will be six session and Axel will be responsible to develop the timetable. Curriculum from the last sessions will be followed.



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

New Business

Host for 2015 Provincial Competition - VAWA

The details for the 2015 Competition are:

Date: May 23, 2015

Location: Scottish Cultural Center, 8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6P 4N2

Chief Steward: Jacquelin George

Action Item: A list will be prepared and distributed for the next round of Provincial Competitions. The list will include the AWC and BCGWJ competitions.

Election – Rick Homer

Rick thanked the current executive and carried out the elections for the new executive. The following are the results:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| President | Sandy Bellows |
| Vice President | Doug Markin |
| Secretary | Sharon Bierd |
| Treasurer | John Matkovich |
| National Director | Axel Kroitzsch |
| Directors at Large (3 positions) | John McMaster, Ron Thorne, Pepe Kubon |
| Appointed Positions | |
| Guild Master – | Sam Hauck |
| Past President – | Rick Homer |
| Web Master | John McMaster |
| Archivist | Robin McNeil |

Executive Meeting

Next Executive Meeting: October 19, 2014; Cheers Restaurant Vancouver. **Please note this date has been changed from September to October.**

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by: Axel Kroitzsch Seconded by: Colin Nicholson carried

British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

Treasurer's Report May 1, 2014

Cash Balance as at May 1, 2013**\$ 8,829.02****Inventory May 1, 2013****\$ 1,159.00****Total Cash/Inventory May 1 2013****\$ 9,988.02****Budget Forecast 2013/2014 Fiscal Year****Forecasted Revenues 2013/14****Budget****Actual****Balance****Returned Funds**

Competition Medals 2013

\$ 741.00

\$ 741.00

\$ -

Competition Medals 2014

\$ 650.00

\$ 650.00

Provincial Loan Repayment 2013

\$ 1,000.00

\$ 1,000.00

\$ -

Total Returned Funds

\$ 2,391.00**\$ 1,741.00****-\$ 650.00****General Revenue**

Club dues

\$ 1,500.00

\$ 1,435.00

\$ 65.00

Competition Share 2013

\$ 400.00

\$ 421.47

-\$ 21.47

Competition Share 2014

\$ 1,000.00

\$ 1,000.00

Miscellaneous

\$ 15.00

\$ 5.01

-\$ 9.99

Total General Revenue 2013/14

\$ 2,915.00**\$ 1,861.48****\$ 1,033.54****Total Operating Revenues****\$ 5,306.00****\$ 3,602.48****-\$ 1,703.52****Forecasted Expenses 2013/14****Expense****Balance**

Ferry/Travel

\$ 200.00

\$ 227.00

-\$ 27.00

Secretarial

\$ 100.00

\$ 100.00

Web Site Maintenance

\$ 200.00

\$ 110.00

\$ 90.00

Meeting Rentals

\$ 600.00

\$ 300.00

\$ 300.00

Teleconferencing

\$ 400.00

\$ 374.27

\$ 25.73

Filing Fees (2013)

\$ 25.00

\$ 25.00

\$ -

AWC Dues

\$ 200.00

\$ 180.00

\$ 20.00

Club Education program allocation

\$ 1,500.00

\$ 1,500.00

Miscellaneous

\$ 50.00

\$ 50.00

Total Operating Expenses**\$ 3,275.00****\$ 1,216.27****\$ 2,058.73****Budgeted Operating Revenue 2013/14****\$ 2,031.00****\$ 2,386.21****Cash Available May 1, 2013****\$ 8,829.02****Budgeted Cash Balance April 30 2014****\$ 10,860.02****Actual cash balance May 1, 2014****\$ 11,215.23****INVENTORY MEDALS****GOLD**

70

SILVER

118

BRONZE

162

TOTAL 4/5/14**350**



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

To: All BCAWA Member Clubs
From: VAWA – Vancouver Amateur Winemakers Club

January 28, 2014

Proposal to introduce term limits to BCAWA director positions.

Preamble and background

The rules which govern how we elect the BCAWA directors are part of the BCAWA Bylaws which can be found on the BCAWA website: http://bcawa.ca/bcawa/_bylaws.php. Part 5 of the Bylaws has several sections which deal with the election of the BCAWA directors:

- 5.4 The number of directors shall be 10.
- 5.5 The directors shall retire from office at each annual general meeting when their successors shall be elected.
- 5.6 Separate elections shall be held for each office to be filled.
- 5.7 An election may be by acclamation, otherwise it shall be by ballot.
- 5.8 If no successor is elected, the person previously elected or appointed continues to hold office.
- 5.9 The directors may at any time and from time to time appoint a member as a director to fill a vacancy in the directors.
 - (a) A director so appointed holds office only until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting of the Association, but is eligible for re-election at the meeting.
- 5.10 If a director resigns his office or otherwise ceases to hold office, the remaining directors shall appoint a member to take the place of the former director.

You might notice that there's no limit on how many times an incumbent director can be re-elected. For example, over the last 10 years (or possibly even longer) we've only had three presidents and one treasurer. There are a number of BCAWA member clubs that have not participated on the BCAWA executive for quite a number of years.

We've recently seen comments from member clubs such as the one received last week:

"...Our motherhood [BCAWA] organization seems to be more concerned with keeping us isolated and quibbling about club rule minutia rather than making us visible and relevant..."

It's important to remember that the BC wine clubs created the BCAWA, essentially as a service organization, and not the other way around. That member clubs should increasingly feel disconnected from the BCAWA is a very unfortunate turn of events. And a situation that we should really try to repair.

We believe that having an executive group with very low turnover tends to stagnate and get isolated from the organizations it's supposed to be representing. We suggest that limiting the amount of time that any one member can serve in any one director position would increase the turnover and regularly infuse the executive group with "new blood". We've been floating this idea around the member clubs for about a year now and have received some feedback, mostly positive.

Some members have questioned the need to change anything, observing that under paragraph 5.5 (above), all of the directors need to be re-elected each year anyway – they say that the real problem is that no new members ever volunteer to stand for election. So the current executives simply agree stay on for another year and then ultimately figure out how to replace themselves. Or not.

We would argue that while there's some truth there, it's not really that simple. There's a natural reluctance to run against an incumbent executive and, if elected, knock them out of a position that they seem to enjoy occupying. (We don't recall any BCAWA directors announcing that they will not be running again and that another candidate must be found.)

If the current incumbent is prevented from standing again by a bylaw limitation then the situation is much different – the new candidate would not be removing an incumbent from office.

Members then often wonder where we think all these new candidates would come from. They usually remind us that in all their years they've never seen many candidates come forward and in fact, no one seems to remember BCAWA ever having an actual election – all positions have been filled by acclamation.



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

This is a good question but we believe it goes right back to the member clubs getting disconnected from the BCAWA organization. Once again, it was the member clubs that originally created the BCAWA: the clubs really need to see themselves as being responsible for maintaining the BCAWA and actively recruit members from their own ranks to serve as BCAWA directors.

Clubs say that they have a hard enough time finding members to fill their own executive positions and suggest that they'd have difficulty finding anyone to agree to be a BCAWA director. Our experience has been that having an active nominating committee that starts early in the year works well. VAWA does have a term limit clause in our bylaws and we now see a good flow of members through our executive. Members often need to be reminded that having been on the executive once doesn't excuse them from serving again.

What we'd like to do is add a new section to the bylaws, after section 5.8, that says: "No member shall hold the same office for more than two full terms in succession. Serving for part of a term shall, in this regard, not be considered a whole term." To be complete we'd also like to amend 5.9 (a) to say that if a director is appointed by the executive to fill a vacant director position, then the time spent as a "replacement" director shouldn't count towards the two year maximum. We took this wording from the VAWA bylaws.

Some members have wondered what happens if the two year limit is up but no one stands to fill the position – does it stay empty? This situation is really no different than it is today and, in fact, the BCAWA executive has operated with vacant director positions in the past. The bylaws allow for two ways to fill vacant director positions – the first is spelled out in section 5.8 which allows that if a successor is not elected then the previously elected director will continue to hold office. The second is the following section, 5.9, which allows the executive to appoint a member to fill a vacant director position. The proposed term limit rule can be viewed as a way of bringing new people into the BCAWA director positions without hurting the feelings of the incumbent directors. Term limits also assure elected directors that their commitment can't exceed two years.

Last, but not least, we should recognize the energy that new directors bring. Whenever the BCAWA does get an infusion of new leadership, many new directions start to take shape. It's not a coincidence that many of the new initiatives taken by the BCAWA have brought to the table by newly elected directors.

The motion that VAWA has placed on the BCAWA agenda is reproduced on the following page. We hope that you'll agree that term limits are a positive change and that you'll support our motion when it comes to vote at the next BCAWA general meeting.

VAWA Executive.

VAWA moves to amend the BCAWA Bylaws as follows:

- 1) Amend Part 5 by inserting after section 5.8:
5.8.1 No member shall hold the same office for more than two full terms in succession. Serving for part of a term shall, in this regard, not be considered a whole term.
- 2) Amend Part 5, section 5.9:
Current wording is:
5.9 The directors may at any time and from time to time appoint a member as a director to fill a vacancy in the directors.
(a) A director so appointed holds office only until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting of the Association, but is eligible for re-election at the meeting.

Amend wording to:

- 5.9 The directors may at any time and from time to time appoint a member as a director to fill a vacancy in the directors.
(a) A director so appointed holds office only until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting of the Association, but is eligible for re-election at the meeting. **The period served as a replacement Director is not included when determining the maximum term limit for a Director.**