



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting

NOTE: These minutes have not yet been adopted.

Date: May 23, 2015

Location: Scottish Cultural Centre
8886 Hudson Street Vancouver BC

BCAWA Executive:

Present:	President:	Sandy Bellows - Saanich (Chair)
	Past President:	Rick Homer - Saanich
	Vice President:	Doug Markin - Nanaimo
	Treasurer:	John Matkovich - Vinovan
	Guild master:	Dave Ewen - VAWA
	Chief Steward:	Jacquelin George – SCAWA
	National Director	Axel Kroitzsch - Langley
	Director at Large:	Ron Thorne - VAWA
Director at Large:	John McMaster – VAWA	
Absent:	Secretary	Sharon Bierd - Saanich

Clubs / Representatives Present (Voting Members):

Belcarra Wine Makers	Robert Martino
Chilliwack Zymurgy	John Ayris
Italvino Wine Club	Riccardo Pellizzari
Kamloops Wine Assoc.	[club not represented at this meeting]
Langley Fermenters	Pat Zawalykut
Nanaimo Winemakers	Cathy Markin
Saanich Sommeliers	Mary Homer
Sunshine Coast	Jacquelin George
VAWA	Larry McIntyre
Vintners of Coquitlam	Mike Lesperance
Vintners of North Van	Doug Ellis

(10 voting members present at this meeting)

1 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bellows called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm and welcomed all present.

2 TOAST BY HOST CLUB

Larry McIntyre gave the toast and added his welcome.

3. **PRESIDENT'S NOTES**

Chair Bellows reminded those present that at its previous meeting the association had adopted a new bylaw which restricts an individual from holding the same executive position for more than two consecutive terms. He informed the group that the BCAWA executive had decided to implement the new bylaw by counting the first consecutive term as the term beginning at this AGM election, i.e., the executive elected at this meeting would be considered to be in their first consecutive term in the position.

Chair Bellows reported that while Communications Committee that he had chaired had been formed to provide better awareness of BCAWA and clubs, provide reasons for wanting to join a club, and encourage new members to join BCAWA member clubs, the committee has been disbanded as there has been no interest in continuing the its activities.

4 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Pat Zawalykut (Langley) voiced concern that the agenda does not include a list of candidates standing for office. The only way to find out is to go to the meeting and at that point the club reps have to vote without any ability to have input from their club.

Many of the club reps expressed support for this idea.

Past President Homer (responsible for nominations) responded that because there is the possibility of nominations from the floor, all candidates could not be listed beforehand. He also noted that that the clubs should be able to trust their reps to make a decision.

Several club reps disagreed with the response, also noting that even if there were no elections as such because no one was contesting a position, the names should be published beforehand, because this may spark interest in a club to select someone and put forth a nomination.

There was considerable discussion of this topic, mostly supportive. Rather than add it to the agenda for further discussion at this meeting the chair decided that this topic was best left for the new incoming executive to deal with.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5 **MINUTES**

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the minutes of the BCAWA Annual General Meeting Dated May 3, 2014 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

6 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None

7 REPORTS

TREASURER – John Matkovich

The Treasurer tabled his report and summarized as follows: The association started off the year with a little over \$11,000 including an inventory of provincial medals valued at about \$4,000 which should last the association about 4-5 years. Revenue was budgeted at \$3,500 but the actual was \$4,200 thanks to the successful 2014 competition run by the Saanich club. On the expense side, in addition to the medal purchase, BCAWA provided the BC Guild with \$2,000 towards future judge training. The treasurer estimated that the association would have a bank balance of approximately \$8,000 with no major expenses expected.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

CHIEF STEWARD – Jacquelin George

The Chief Steward reported that this year's competition was successfully concluded at approximately 1:20pm today. There were a total of 313 entries judged with 23 Gold, 57 Silver and 135 Bronze medals awarded.

No request for a motion to accept the report was made; no motion was made.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR – Axel Kroitzsch

The National Director reported that for the first time BC has a chance of giving Ontario a run for the money as due to the stable membership in Ontario, the increased membership in BC and the declining membership in Alberta and Manitoba, we have been awarded 3 additional entries this year, bringing us to only 2 fewer entries than Ontario (64 vs 66).

The National Director further noted that the AWC is still without a President and wanted to know if anybody was willing to volunteer to fill the position. Jacquelin George recommended that the AWC Presidents position should be filled by the Province hosting the AWC competition for that year. Larry McIntyre noted that that change would result in the fact that nobody is obligated to fill the position for more than one year. This suggestion received unanimous concurrence from the AGM attendees

No request for a motion to accept the report was made; no motion was made.

GUILD MASTER – Dave Ewen

The Guild Master reported that the guild is working on ways to invigorate the guild members and to this end are actively planning to start judging commercial wines in addition to the judging they currently do. The Guild hopes to present a detailed plan at their AGM in September 2015.

No request for a motion to accept the report was made; no motion was made.

8 OLD BUSINESS

- a. Sandy Bellows (Chair) asked for a motion to change the name of the British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association to British Columbia Artisan Winemakers Association.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the name of the British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association be changed to British Columbia Artisan Winemakers Association.

Discussion:

Sandy suggested that this name change would make the association and its member clubs more current and relevant and would be more attractive to younger people. He noted that many young people who he has talked to do not view the word amateur in a positive light. He went on to note that many of the arguments he has heard against the name change are based on half-truths (such as the claim that we would lose our amateur tax status and our ability to import grapes and other winemaking equipment). Sandy noted that although this had already come to a vote in the past few months, he felt that he should bring it forward again for a new vote in light of this new information.

Comments were generally positive and supportive of the motion but some club reps noted that they would not be comfortable voting on the motion again until they had had a chance to discuss the motion (again) at the club level.

It was decided to postpone the vote to the fall general meeting.

POSTPONED

8. NEW BUSINESS

HOST CLUBS FOR FUTURE PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS

Confirmed for 2016:

- 2016 – Belcarra/Sunshine Coast
 - i. Date: May 26, 2016
 - ii. Location: St. Helen's Hall, Burnaby
 - iii. Chief Steward: Jacquelin George

Tentatively agreed on schedule:

- 2017 – Italvino
- 2018 – Vinovan
- 2019 – Nanaimo Winemakers
- 2020 – Kamloops Wine Association
- 2021 - Chilliwack Zymurgy
- 2022 – Langley Fermenters
- 2023 – Saanich Sommeliers
- 2024 – VAWA
- 2025 - Belcarra/Sunshine Coast
- 2026 – Italvino

9. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Rick Homer thanked the current executive and carried out the elections for the new executive.

The following are the results:

President	Axel Kroitzsch (Langley)	by acclamation
Vice President	Mike Leeper (Vinovan)	by acclamation
Secretary	John McMaster (VAWA)	by acclamation
Treasurer	John Matkovich (Vinovan)	by ballot
National Director	Doug Markin (Nanaimo)	by acclamation
Directors at Large (2 positions)	Larry McIntyre (VAWA) Pepe Kubon (VAWA)	by acclamation
Appointed Positions		
Guild Master –	Dave Ewen (VAWA)	
Past President –	Sandy Bellows (Saanich)	
Web Master	John McMaster (VAWA)	
Archivist	Robin McNeil (Saanich)	

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED