



British Columbia Artisan Winemakers Association

Minutes of the October 1, 2023 Meeting of BCAWA

Roma Hall, 940 Ewan Ave, New Westminster, BC

ATTENDEES: 10 members, 1 guest- Mike Roman

Club	Representative	Attendee
Belcarra Wine Makers	Robert Martino	
Kamloops Winemakers	Absent	
Langley Fermenters	Lucien Mircioiu	
Nanaimo Winemakers	Doug Markin	
Saanich Winemakers	Absent	
VAWA	Larry McIntyre	John McMaster Joe Zucchiatti
Vinovan	Brian McConnell	Mike Leeper John Matkovich
Vintners of Coquitlam		Roger Ford
Guest		Mike Roman

Executive:

President Mike Leeper –Vinovan

Vice President Joe Zucchiatti

Secretary Roger Ford - Coquitlam

Treasurer John Matkovich - Vinovan

Past President John McMaster- VAWA

National Director Doug Markin - Nanaimo

Director at Large Robert Martino - Belcarra

Director at Large Larry McIntyre - VAWA

Guild of Wine Judges Bill Huva – Vinovan

Appointed Positions:

Web Site John McMaster – VAWA

Archivist Robin McNeil – Saanich Sommeliers - Absent

1. **Welcome and call to order by President** -Mike Leeper spoke of the slow return of regular meetings, competitions and the like due to COVID; finishing off by introducing the 2023 executive as well as attendees from the Member Clubs
2. **Toast** -given by Robert Martino on behalf of Belcarra Winemakers, with a (slightly chilled) Grenache Blanc made from juice he imported from Spain
3. **Approval of Agenda** – moved Larry McIntyre, seconded by Doug Markin - motion carried.
4. **Approval of March 12th, 2023 General Meeting Minutes** – moved Robert Martino, seconded Brian McConnel – motion carried.
5. **Reports:**

Treasurer

John Matkovich presented the financial report, taking us through income and expenses to date. The balance is \$6,080. John stated that the name

changes from Amateur to Artisan was approved by the GovBC on June 21, 2003.

National Directors Report (AWC)

Doug Markin 2023 summarized the 2023 AWC Competition wrap up: BCAWA members were well represented, particularly noteworthy, was the designation given to Mary and Rick Homer, of Saanich Sommeliers, as 2023 Grand Champion Winemakers. At which point Mike gave a toast to Rick and Mary Homer.

Doug had personally driven BC's 61 entries to the AWC competition in Ontario. He spoke to AWC officials about the recent name change from 'Amateur' to 'Artisan' of BCAWA. Doug received favourable response to the idea of a similar change for the AMC. He noted that 12 judges took part, whose training was on par with the BCGWJ. Of the entries, 77% received gold medals. The next AWC competition will take place in Alberta. Competition results are to posted to the AWC website.

Guild Master's Report

Brian McConnell distributed and read Bill Huva's report for the BC Guild of Wine Judges (BCGWJ) (*see attachment* which is also posted to the website). He concluded by reminding those present that Vinovan is holding their 51st Annual Wine Competition on Nov.4th at Gloria Dei Church, North Vancouver at 11am. Entries - \$10 per bottle.

Motion by Lucien Mircioiu, to accept the reports as read, seconded by Larry McIntyre. Passed unanimously.

6. Unfinished Business

- a. 2023 Club Crush – update by Mike Leeper: Carmenere from the Columbia Valley AVA will be available the week of Oct. 22nd Approximately 5,500 pounds have been ordered from Jim Canil.
- b. Review of by-laws re quorum, electronic participation/voting etc.
Discussion was led by John McMaster and John Matkovich. While there was concern raised about the costs of setting up electronic Zoom meetings, we were informed that a yes vote concerning electronic attendance/voting simply would allow for **any** form of electronic inclusion (i.e., even a member

listening in via cell phone, would be allowed). The proposed revised Bylaws are attached to encourage members to comment. Agreement was reached that each Club representative would discuss the proposed Revised Bylaws with their own club and report back to the BCAWA Executive by Dec. 1, 2023 to allow for revision/voting at the next BCAWA meeting. Motion to accept by Robert Martino, seconded by Larry McIntyre Passed unanimously.

7. New Business

a. Review of information on BCAWA website re privacy i.e., Meeting Minutes A lively discussion ensued. Everyone agreed that the minutes were currently readily available to anyone who wished via each club's representative. No proposed changes to posting on the BCAWA website.

b. Next Meeting and Host

Mike Roman advised that it is practical and economic to hold the BCAWA meetings when the Roma Hall Executives meet on the second Sunday of the month as the Hall is open and the kitchen is open for sandwiches. It was agreed that the next session would be held March 10, 2024, host to be determined. The AGM will be held following the BC Provincial Competition.

c. The 2024 Provincial Competition will be hosted by Saanich Sommeliers & the 2025 Provincial Competition by VAWA.

8. Announcements:

- a. Vinovan Competition will be held Nov. 4th 2023, at Gloria Dei Church in North Vancouver
- b. Nanaimo Competition will be on March 2, 2024

9. Town Hall Session

Mike Leeper mentioned that the Guild of Wine Judges Mainland Chapter, wants to explore the idea of hosting a wine appreciation seminar for BCAWA members and the general public in an effort to raise more awareness, funds and members. BCAWA members and guests would attend at a discounted cost to the general

public. We would hold this in the late winter / early spring (see Bill Huva's report). There was a lively discussion regarding holding the seminar at the three Guild chapters versus holding one at each BCAWA Club. It was also noted that volunteers would be needed to join the committee and that possibly Sam Hauck could participate.

10. Brian McConnell motioned to adjourn, seconded by Rob Martino