

BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTISAN WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION

Agenda General Meeting October 6, 2024

Location: ROMA Hall; 940 Ewen Avenue New Westminster, BC; 11:15am

Notice of Meeting and Agenda

- 1) Welcome by President
- 2) Toast by Vintners of Coquitlam
- 3) Approval of Agenda
- 4) Approval of May 28, 2023 AGM Minutes
- 5) Reports:
 - a) Treasurer John Matkovich
 - b) National Director Doug Markin – Results of AWC 2024 Competition
 - c) Guild Master William Huva
 - d) 2025 Provincial Competition by VAWA
- 6) Unfinished Business:
 - a) 2024 BCAWA Crush – Jim Canil/Larry McIntyre – Syrah from Meek Vineyard
 - c) 2024 Grape Procurement – Jim Canil acquiring Rob Martino’s grape supply
 - d) Guild of Wine Judges to create 1 day Wine Appreciation Workshop for early 2025
 - e) Maintenance of Website - it needs refining/upgrading or a completely new system –

Volunteer(s) required

New Business

- a) Motion re: BC Guild Of Wine Judges

At the 1976 BCAWA annual meeting held in Penticton, Bill Collings submitted a proposal to form a guild of judges - this was endorsed by the council. Lou Curnick was appointed chairman of a committee to form a “British Columbia Guild of Judges” under the auspices of the BCAWA. (Lou later noted that “Going back through earlier grape vines, and sundry correspondence it becomes apparent that efforts have been made since 1969 by various interested and concerned winemakers to have some organization set up towards the Guild of Judges.”) By November 1976 Bill Collings and John Russell had been added to the committee.

In early 1977 the committee proposed that a training and certification course for judges be created, estimated a \$2,000 cost for the course and requested an \$800 advance from BCAWA. This was approved, a consultant engaged (Ron Taylor), the course designed, and volunteer course

participants requested from each club. By June 1977, a 15 week training course had been created and conducted. Each participant paid \$100 for the course. The committee returned \$716.88 to BCAWA, being the balance remaining after all expenses had been paid. The net cost to BCAWA was $\$2,000 - \$716.88 = \$1,283.12$.

Attracting and training new members, and keeping all members current is a major expense for the Guild and is an ongoing challenge.

Since this initial investment, BCAWA has often provided grants to the Guild for development and training of judges. An example is the course that Axel Kroitsch and Rick Homer have developed for such training and development and have had encouraging participation. But, beyond the training courses, expenses have continually increased, and the Guild struggles to pay for its ongoing expenses such as their monthly maintenance sessions.

While the Guild provides services to all club competitions by supplying qualified and independent judges, the Guild itself does not derive any financial benefit from providing these services. While individual Guild members providing judging services to competitions are entitled to have some of their direct expenses reimbursed, Guild expenses incurred at each of their monthly training sessions are met by the Guild members themselves.

We support the Guild and feel that it's not unreasonable to offset some of these expenses by creating some revenue for the Guild which is based on the services provided, namely judging competition entries.

With that in mind I submit the following motion:

I move that a fee of \$1.00 for each entry judged in a competition be assessed and paid to the BC Guild of Wine Judges.

b) Next Meeting in 2025

8) Next Toast

9) Town Hall Session

a) Dwindling Club Members

10) Announcements:

11) Adjourn