

MINUTES

Spokane Enological Society Board Meetings

September 12, 2022 | 6:53 pm | Meeting called to order by Claudia Hersey

In Attendance

Board attendees: Marlys Achey, Carly Cortright, Mary Gross, Marty Hanson, Julie Happy, Mona Henspeter, Robin Henspeter, Paul Hersey, Claudia Hersey, Barb Kogler, Marcia Plewman, Rebecca Sputhe, Kris Wedel

Board absentees: David DeNio, Dionne DeNio, Ellen Hoffman, Dave Madison, Jody Wende

Appointee attendees: Debby Hanson, Terry Gross

Appointee absentees: Deb Austin, Kyle Goodwin, CR Rimpila, Eva Roberts, Jeffrey Snow

Quorum? Yes

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the July 11, 2022, board retreat meeting were approved as written.

Discussion Item: Board Retreat

Thank you to Mary and Terry Gross for hosting the annual board retreat at their house. They thanked everyone for the wine gifts.

Treasurer's Report: Carly Cortwright

Carly explained her treasurer's reports for July, August, and YTD Annual totals. The July special event lost a little, so was possibly a bit underpriced. She has made a few changes to the format of the Treasurer's report, which she explained. Ending bank balance after August was \$9,919.58.

Membership Report

We currently have 202 members, 16 new members since the June tasting. There are 98 signed up for next week's tasting. This puts us over the cutoff for a set amount of wine, so now we will increase the number to 108 and cut off registration at that point.

Tasting Programs Support: Paul Hersey | Robin Henspeter

The September tasting was originally planned for 84 people at a cost of \$30. This should bring in approximately \$680 in profit. Our cost is \$8-10 per bottle. We will open with a bubbly and taste eight wines. Robin is going to be out of town, so Dick Austin will assist Paul. There is an "island" theme, so dress accordingly. The number per table will be six.

Our wine inventory is fine for our current give-away program. Three bottles will be given away at this month's tasting.

- October – France, Amber Park

- November – Italian redo, John Allen
- December – English wines and dinner???

Paul had mentioned at the last meeting that the past year had focused on local wines, and this year the programs would be branching out a little. There was a lot of discussion about how to make the programs affordable, yet interesting with quality wines, with lots of individual ideas on the topic. This is an on-going topic of discussion.

Special Events

The holiday dinner is December 12, 2022. The original idea was English wine and food, but the group gave a thumbs up to a French theme. There apparently used to be a tasting committee for the holiday dinner, and several members would like to return to that program.

Extra Special Events: Debby Hanson

The details are being worked out for an event at Latah Creek for Monday, October 26, so put that date on your calendar.

Julie was asked to share her ideas on ESE's. Basically she has sold all the local wines and wants to try wines she hasn't tasted before. As mentioned in the Programs section, we got away from outside wines last year, but the plan is to focus outside the area a little more. There is always the question about quality vs. what people are willing to pay. There were a lot of suggestions from individuals, and it will be an on-going discussion.

Food Committee: Mary Gross

This month the committee has enough people and they had a great turnout for the tasting. They are going with individual serving plates, with a bonus treat of lemon pound cake to go with the greeting sparkling.

Glasses | Linens | Swag Bags, etc.

An order for the tasting of 17 tablecloths has been placed. We have 62 bags, 4 trays, and 48 glasses on hand. We apparently no longer give out the trays to new members as we haven't had a walk-around in a long time.

AV & ZOOM: Terry Gross

Terry will work on "island" music for the tasting. There have been no recent submissions for Facebook, but he would love any photos.

Website

Again, no new updates, but send photos or ideas for submissions.

President's Report: Claudia Hersey

- Claudia distributed new business cards to board members and appointees.
- The by-laws state we have a Membership Committee, which we don't. Claudia suggested we have a committee to consist of Deb Austin, Membership Director as Chair; Claudia Hersey, Wineminder editor; and Charlie Rimpila, Webmaster. She read the by-laws which explained the committee and

responsibilities. They are required to communicate with the Treasurer, but the Treasurer does not need to be on the committee. A motion was made to form such a committee, and the motion was approved.

- Dave Madison has resigned from the board. Rebecca explained that he has other Monday commitments, but will still be an SES member. Terry Gross was approved as an interim replacement through 2025 to fill the vacant position.
- The next board meeting on October 10 will be in person, but will also be available on Zoom.

Other Business

Marlys asked if there was a limit on how many times a guest can attend tastings without becoming a member. There used to be a waiting list for membership, so perhaps the rule was set up to ensure members would be able to attend tastings. It eventually benefits a taster to become a member rather than continually paying guest fees. We will look at the bylaws and discuss it at the next meeting.

There was a discussion about adding board members for extra help at tastings. Most felt we have a large board already. Paul said that even if enough people don't sign up to pour, he can usually recruit the needed help at the time.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on October 10, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Marcia Plewman, SES Secretary