

MINUTES

Spokane Enological Society Board Meetings

November 14, 2022 | 7:00 pm | Meeting called to order by Claudia Hersey (In Person and Zoom)

In Attendance

Board attendees: Marlys Achey, Carly Cortright, David DeNio, Dionne DeNio, Mary Gross, Terry Gross, Marty Hanson, Julie Happy, Claudia Hersey, Paul Hersey, Ellen Hoffman, Barb Kogler, Marcia Plewman, Rebecca Sputhe, Kris Wedel, Jody Wende

Board absentees: Mona Henspeter, Robin Henspeter

Appointee attendees: Deb Austin, Kyle Goodwin, Deby Hanson, Charlie Rimpila, Eva Roberts, Jeffery Snow

Appointee absentees: none

Quorum? Yes

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October 10, 2022, meeting were approved with one correction. Under Tasting Programs, the current wine inventory was listed as 78 bottles, which was corrected to read 41 bottles.

Treasurer's Report

Last month's report listed linens rental, which we did not have in September; however, we did have a charge for glasses rental.

October's French wine tasting made a profit of \$849.51, nearly a 30 percent profit. We need to be mindful about our profit margin. We don't want to have a treasury balance too large; however, we do have future expenses such as a wine glass order. We will also be going back to providing wine for the Food Committee to assist with food selection. Our current balance is \$13,400.50.

Membership Report: Deb Austin

We currently have 204 members, two new since last month. There are 124 registered for next week's tasting, including 13 guests. It was discussed whether we should stick to 124 or bump it up as much as 132.

When we have a full house, the room gets pretty loud, and the servers have difficulty getting around if the tables are too close. Marty offered to arrive early and space tables out if they are too close together.

Tasting Programs

November's Italian wine tasting was originally set at \$32 each, with a predicted \$8 loss. Our budget is in better shape than the past few years, and the committee felt they could spend a few extra dollars. Since more people have signed up, Paul is now predicting a \$400 profit, approximately.

Historically, the Food Committee was provided with a bottle of each of the tasting wines to assist them in their decision making, paid for by SES. Claudia proposed getting back into this process, and that the Program Director be responsible for getting wine samples to the Food Committee. There was discussion about whether

the wine retailer would be willing to comp this wine for the Food Committee since they will be making a profit on the tasting. This is something that is worth looking into.

Paul needs help opening wine prior to the tasting, and his helpers will include Julie Happy, Marty Hanson, Jeff Snow, and Bruce Plewman. Paul also passed around a sheet for pourers with ten slots needed.

There will be seven people seated per table. Photos of Italy will be projected at the tasting.

There are currently 44 bottles in inventory. This month's tasting will involve four giveaway bottles, and the holiday dinner will involve a 20-bottle giveaway.

January's tasting theme will be Paso Robles.

Special Events: Eva Roberts

The holiday dinner is December 12, 2022. Matt Dolan selected the wines, which the board members are tasting at the meeting tonight. Eva explained which of the wines will be paired with the courses of the meal, including two sparklings to start things off and ending with a tawny port with dessert. She attempts to break even when pricing this dinner, and normally expects around 120 people. There is no price set yet.

David DeNio has looked into poppers as discussed last month, to go along with the Old English theme. He has priced out the poppers (which don't pop as that is a fire hazard) at \$1.60 each or \$240.76 total. They don't have confetti and shouldn't make a mess. Eva would like this to come out of the general fund and not add to the price of the dinner. Some felt this was not a valid expense, so it was put to an informal vote, and the purchase of the poppers was approved.

Extra Special Events: Deby Hanson

There were 36 attendees at the Latah Creek event, and financially we came out a little ahead. The Conways were very gracious hosts and gave an interesting presentation. Many took advantage of their gift shop. Due to the time of year, we will take a break for a few months from extra special events.

Food Committee: Mary Gross

Mary has been ill and joined the group via Zoom. She thanked Kris Wedel for stepping up the previous evening for the Food Committee meeting. She and Kris will get together to work out the details of the food plan for next week. There will be fewer items on the plates, and the plates will be larger, 7 inches.

Claudia would like to add a co-chair for the Food Committee.

Glasses | Linens | Swag Bags, etc.: Dionne DeNio

Our inventory is down to 12 glasses and 12 bags, so we do need to place an order prior to the end of the year. The price break will determine how many we order. There may be members who want to purchase new glasses since they will have our new logo. Claudia will research the order.

Membership Recognition: Dionne DeNio

Dionne will work with Deb Austin with remembrances for those lost in the past five years and members who joined prior to 1998 (Palmer, Snows, John Allen).

Education

Jeff would like some feedback about what people want to know about wine. Kyle suggested minerality. Jeff gave a synopsis of what the March field trip to the WSU Wine Science Center will include.

V & ZOOM: Terry Gross

Terry posted photos taken at the Latah Creek special event. He is planning to project photos of Italy during next week's tasting.

Website

Claudia mentioned the checklist she would like from Charlie of his duties for those filling in. It was discussed that the historical Wineminder should be organized by year so you can search by year and find issues. He has not yet looked at the problem of registering couples discussed last month.

President's Report: Claudia Hersey

- Claudia still has new business cards for Charlie.
- We will propose some amendments to the Southside Center so we can avoid the issue that arose this month, where the center threatened to book another group on our night. We need a search committee to look into alternative locations in case our amendments are not accepted.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be December 5, 2022, via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Marcia Plewman, SES Secretary