

MINUTES

Spokane Enological Society Annual Board Meeting

April 10, 2023, | 7:15 pm | Meeting called to order by President Claudia Hersey (at Spokane Club)

In Attendance

Board attendees: Marlys Achey, Carly Cortright, David DeNio, Dionne DeNio, Mary Gross, Terry Gross, Deby Hanson, Marty Hanson, Robin Henspeter, Claudia Hersey, Paul Hersey, Marcia Plewman, Kris Wedel

New board attendees: Deb Austin, Matt Dolan, Kyle Goodwin, Kevin Howell, "Skip" Leasure, Lyn Leininger

Board absentees: Julie Happy, Mona Henspeter, Ellen Hoffman, Barb Kogler, Jody Wende

Appointee attendees: Deb Austin, Kyle Goodwin, Eva Roberts, Jeffery Snow

Appointee absentees: Charlie Rimpila

Quorum? Yes

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by Claudia Hersey.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 13, 2023, meeting were approved as written.

Election of New Board Members and Appointment of Officers for 2023-2024

Claudia thanked the *outgoing board members* for their service, each of whom received a gift from her. They are: Mary Gross, Mona Henspeter, Robin Henspeter, Paul Hersey, Barb Kogler, and Jody Wende.

Nominated for a three-year term as incoming board members are:

- Lyn Leininger
- Matt Dolan
- Deb Austin
- Donovan "Skip" Leasure
- Kevin Howell
- Kyle Goodwin

As no further nominations were received from the floor, President Hersey called for a motion to elect the above candidates to the Board. The motion was made and seconded, and the candidates were elected and installed. All board members were presented with a new black ribbon to signify their board appointments.

Claudia told the group that she had enjoyed her time as president and had given a lot of consideration as to whether to continue for another term. She feels succession planning is one of the important aspects of the executive board, and therefore she has decided to resign and support the nomination of Kris Wedel as president for the coming term. She received significant assistance from others when she first took the job of president (from Deb Austin, Eva Roberts, Karen Davis, etc.) and would like to carry on that tradition in giving guidance to a new president.

President

The nominating committee had recommended Kris Wedel for the position of president, and Kris accepted the nomination. Marlys Achey has appreciated the job Claudia has done as the current president and nominated her to continue as President; however, Claudia declined the nomination. Kris Wedel was elected as president by acclamation.

Kris thanked Claudia for all her wonderful efforts during the past few years of huge challenges (pandemic, new venue, etc.)

Vice President

Lyn Leininger was nominated as Vice President. She accepted and was elected to the position.

Secretary

Marcia Plewman was nominated to continue as Secretary. She accepted and was elected to the position.

Treasurer

Carly Cortright was nominated to continue as Treasurer. She accepted and was elected to the position.

Committee Chairs

Following the elections of officers, the following committee chair appointments were discussed by President Wedel:

Membership Director	Deb Austin
Program Committee	Robin and Mona Henspeter, Marty Hanson Julie Happy in an advisory role
Special Events Director	Eva Roberts
Extra Special Events Directors	Deby Hanson and Paul Hersey
Glasses/Linens Chair	Claudia Hersey
Membership Recognition Chair	Dionne DeNio
Food Committee Chairs	Mary and Terry Gross
Wineminder Editor	Claudia Hersey
Internal Auditor	Kyle Goodwin
A/V Entertainment, Social Media, Zoom	Terry Gross
Webmaster	Charlie Rimpila and Terry Gross (still looking for tech-savvy person to volunteer for this position)
Education Director	Jeffery Snow

Treasurer's Report: Carly Cortright

Carly reported that our year-end balance is higher than last year, even though we paid ahead for Shriners. The admin bottom line was in the hole, partly due to an expense for glassware. The March Winescape tasting also had a slight loss. The Affinipay (service we use to process credit cards) charge for March is higher than normal because registrations for the April dinner opened in March, so that impacted it. She will account for this differently in the future for a more accurate interpretation. Our year-end balance is \$11,938.80

Membership Report: Deb Austin

We currently have 215 active members. There are 82 registered so far for the anniversary dinner. She will be working with Eva on a seating chart for the dinner. Matt asked if there is a limit on our membership; the current limit is 335, so we have lots of room. Many remembered when there was a months-long waiting list for

membership. Our Wild Apricot account has a maximum of 250, but if we go beyond that it still works with an extra fee.

Tasting Programs: Paul Hersey and Robin Henspeter

A group has been to Vino and tasted wine for the next event. Robin is happy with the selections and tried to keep the cost in a reasonable range. He and Marty will work out the logistics of getting the wine to the Spokane Club.

There are 42 bottles in stock, and a give-away of 20 is planned for the anniversary dinner.

The May event will feature top-rated affordable wines mentioned in Wine Spectator, wines with a 90+ rating yet fairly inexpensive. There will be a wine pourer training a half hour prior to the May event for those new board members who will be pouring.

In the future we will stress the importance of not having last-minute substitutions for the wines the committee has chosen and ask for a guarantee.

Special Events

Eva is just waiting on the final count for the Anniversary dinner. She will not be in attendance, but the menu is set and everything should be good to go.

The vote was taken to have the Holiday dinner on December 11, 2023, rather than December 18. Eva will try to confirm that date.

Extra Special Events: Deby Hanson

So far 21 have registered for the April 15 road trip to Clarkston. Let Deby know if you want to join a group for dinner afterward. Some are golfing on Sunday, in case anyone wants to join in. She procured a great discount for the Clarkston hotel.

Food Committee: Mary Gross

Mary will coordinate with the Program Committee and set up a meeting for the Sunday before the May tasting. She is looking for new committee members.

Glasses | Linens | Swag Bags, etc., Claudia Hersey

Claudia will meet with Dionne and gather everything together, then report on the numbers.

Membership Recognition, Dionne DeNio

There are no members scheduled for recognition at the Anniversary dinner.

Education: Jeff Snow

Jeff's last article was primarily on the Primativo grape, and he asked for suggestions on grapes to feature in future articles—tannat, mencia? Email him with suggestions.

In a report on the WSU wine center field trip, attendees liked the pruning demonstration, the tours in general, and the tasting, as well as the Kiona Red Mountain tour. Some don't like the mid-week timeframe, and others suggested doing a fall trip prior to harvest.

A/V, Social Media, & ZOOM: Terry Gross

The look of the website may need some improvement, and the photos need updating.

Upcoming Dates

Anniversary Dinner, April 21 at the Spokane Club.

Board meeting, May 8 in person at Shriners.

Tasting, May 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Marcia Plewman, SES Secretary