

MINUTES

Spokane Enological Society Board Meeting

January 8, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Meeting called to order by President Kris Wedel at Shriners Event Center

In Attendance

Board attendees: Marlys Achey, Deb Austin, Kyle Goodwin, Mary Gross, Terry Gross, Deby Hanson, Marty Hanson, Claudia Hersey, Kevin Howell, Skip Leasure, Lyn Leininger, Marcia Plewman, Kris Wedel

Board absentees: Carly Cortright, David DeNio, Dionne DeNio, Matt Dolan, Ellen Hoffman

Appointee attendees: Mona Henspeter, Robin Henspeter, Jeffery Snow

Appointee absentees: Paul Hersey, Charlie Rimpila, Eva Roberts

Quorum? Yes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Kris Wedel.

Approval of Minutes

The November minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Carly Cortright

We only have one printed report, the one detailing the annual report totals, because Carly did not receive the bill from the Spokane Club for the holiday dinner until today. We will address that in February. The treasurer's report shows a balance of \$10,564.53.

Membership Report: Deb Austin

We currently have 185 members, including one who joined after the holiday dinner. There are 90 registered as of this afternoon for the tasting next Monday. Deb will shut off registration on Wednesday. There will be another reminder sent tomorrow, and we will hopefully reach 100 registrants.

Tasting Programs: Robin Henspeter

Next week's tasting will compare Costco brand wines and name brand wines of the same varietal and region. Jeff and Ron Theis will be describing the wines. The participants will not initially be told the price of the wine so as not to influence their decisions. The prices will be announced after each tasting.

We have 25 bottles in inventory, 3 of which will be given away next week.

The program for February has not been decided. They were working on Chelan wines, but those plans have not coalesced. They are considering this year's ten top value wines from Wine Spectator.

Special Events: Eva Roberts

Evan Roberts was not in attendance, so there was no report. Kris did not attend the holiday dinner, but has heard both positive and negative comments.

We need to plan our annual board meeting to install a new board, normally held at the Spokane Club. It should be held after the March tasting and before the April tasting. We will shoot for April 8; Kris will communicate with Eva. April 1 is an alternate date.

Extra Special Events: Deby Hanson and Paul Hersey

There is currently no special event planned. It was noted that the Lake Chelan Wine Valley is hosting an event at the Davenport Hotel on February 22, in case this is of interest to any members. Google *Discover Lake Chelan Wines at Historic Davenport* for information.

Food Committee: Mary Gross

The Food Committee's tasting went well last night, and they came up with some amazing food and wine pairings. They are below the \$4 budget, and most items are from Costco.

We will need to purchase some supplies for our board meetings.

Shriners Contract: Kris Wedel

The Shriners contract was not discussed at this meeting, but it should be noted in the minutes that the board members all weighed in via email after the November meeting and voted 12 to 2 for a one-year contract with Shriners using our own sound system, with a 60-day termination clause. The emails are on record.

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

Claudia promised to report later with a count, which she did:

- 14 old logo glasses
- 112 new logo glasses
- 41 swag bags

Membership Recognition: Dionne DeNio

Dionne was not in attendance.

Education: Jeff Snow and Wine 101 Committee

The next Wine 101 course is scheduled for February 7, 2024, at Vino, entitled *Understanding Why You Like the Wine You Like by Learning the Components of Wine*, where several presenters will each present a topic. There is room for 25. They have been preparing a glossary of wine terms and will answer questions from the first session.

Jeff's next *Snow on Wine* will be unblended wines and why certain varietals are good by themselves.

He also is considering another trip to the WSU wine center in Richland, which will probably be in the middle of the week, but a few members asked if it could be on a day other than Wednesday.

AV/Social Media: Terry Gross

We need to see what works for a sound system, since we are not contracted any more to use Shriners' system. Kris has a system, but doesn't know many details about it. Terry and Marty will get together to learn about her system, try to use it next week, and see if it's feasible for our tastings. If it doesn't work, we may need to purchase a system for around \$600, which would pay for itself in about three months.

Website/Wineminder: Claudia Hersey

Claudia is working with Charlie go get things added to the website, such as minutes and Snow on Wine. They are struggling with getting recipes added in. Articles are due January 19-26 for the February issue.

Now that it's after the holidays, Terry and Mary Ann will receive some more training on website issues.

Elections

It was discovered that in 2021, during Covid, we had two board members resign before the end of their term, and then we elected eight new board members when we only needed six. Therefore, eight members are at the end of their term in 2024 instead of six. To resolve the error, two of the eight outgoing board members need to stay on for one more year. It was moved and seconded that two of the outgoing members be selected to serve one more year due to special circumstances, and the motion passed. It was determined at the meeting that three of those eight members are interested in staying on another year. A vote was held, and the two members staying one more year are Claudia Hersey and Kris Wedel.

We still need six more board members, and a nominating committee was formed of Deb Austin, Lyn Leininger, and Deby Hanson. If you have someone in mind for a board or officer position, please let them know, with Deb Austin as the point person.

Upcoming Dates

The next tasting will be January 15, 2024, at Shriners.

The next board meeting will be February 12, 2024, via Zoom.

The second Wine 101 class will be February 7, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Marcia Plewman, SES Secretary