



PENNSYLVANIA WINE SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 13, 2023

Call To Order

President Robyn Meadows called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m.

In Attendance: Board members – Lynne Beeson, Scott Casper, Robyn Meadows, Stevie Posey, Keith Sealing and Averill Shepps. Guests – Patron Member, Barry Hixon.

Review and Approval of September Minutes

MOTION 1: Keith Sealing moved to approve the October minutes previously distributed. Averill Shepps seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of Treasurer's Report

MOTION 2: Scott Casper moved to approve the Treasurer's Report previously distributed. Averill Shepps seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all in favor and Lynne Beeson abstaining.

Update on PWS Board Email Addresses

Lynne reported we have one email account now versus 5, and aliases established for President, Social Media, Comments, and others as needed for that account. The main mailbox is for Treasurer email.

Newsletter and Website Update

NEWSLETTER: Lynne Beeson shared the January newsletter article deadline - **Thursday, December 21st**

WEBSITE: There are no new issues but calendar remains problematic, crashing once or twice a month. Blog volunteers for this month are **Scott** for Wine Archaeology with a wine from his cellar, **Keith** for Wine Worthy wine dinner and restaurant review for Aura.

Social Media

Stevie reported that future events have been posted. She also posted photos from the Spain event. Cindy and Robyn continue to share and post to encourage following.

Board Elections

Ballot link will be emailed to members from Survey Monkey on December 4. Polls close December 10 at 11:45 PM. Lynne noted that detailed instructions and cautions were in the November *From the Board* column and will be repeated in the December issue's column.

Review of Past Events

Cru Beaujolais (October): One of the best tastings in recent years per Averill. Remarkable in every way. Great learning experience. Eric was very engaging. He tasted with the group – paused between wines. One participant commented that “we can't lose him”. Great on interactions. And great wines.

Tour of Spanish Wines (November): Some last-minute stressors with two people whose reservations were missed. Great pairings. Less interaction - possibly because people were concentrating to hear speaker and

understand given foreign accent and quiet voice. Wines were really good – that’s what we want. Very knowledgeable and brought good wines. Food very good but presentation lacking with second two plates having lots of white space; question of inclusion of grapes versus olives on first plate. Lynne will share feedback with the Hilton.

There was brief discussion of the new FWGS online system. Reports of both positive and negative experiences. Some desired functionality from the old website no longer available. Locating desired wines more difficult. Inter-store transfers no longer available. Wine Specialists less involved. Goal is labor cost savings with new processes - warehouse distribution model efficiencies. Scott noted that warehouse in-stock wines are delivered quickly and with no delivery fee.

Remaining 2023 Event and 2024 Programming – Updates and Further Discussion

December – Sparkling Wines – Friday 12/01 Pourers needed. Anticipate pouring stations and perhaps food stations to pick up plates, versus serving. Robyn will send email soliciting help when logistics are finalized. **Scott** volunteered for a pouring shift.

January – Binah “Fine Wines of the Mid Atlantic” – Sunday 1/28 at the Hilton. Cindy not available to report.

February – Zinfandel “Exploring the Rich History of Zinfandel” – Friday 2/16 at the Hilton. Cindy not available to report.

March – Cadenza “A Winemaker’s Dream” – Friday 3/15 at Cadenza Vineyards, Brogue. Stevie shared this event will be at the winery with a cut-off of 20 people. Two wines from barrel (but ready to be bottled), current wines and a couple library wines. 10 or 11 wines total. Carl will share his story and that of Cadenza while talking about the wines.

April – Credo portfolio Germany Austria Hungary – Friday 4/12 at the Hilton. Credo owners are working well with Lynne for this event. Wines are secured already because Lynne was alerted that these were selling out in the stores.

May – French Whites with Kevin Ostrowski – Friday 5/17 at the Hilton. Lynne thinks Cindy is awaiting confirmation from Kevin for this date and topic. Cindy not available to report.

June – Pacific NW “Oregon and Neighbors” – Friday 6/14 at the Hilton. Scott is well along preparing for the event.

Postcards

Proposal to mail and distribute to stores in early January with January-June event short descriptions. Lynne needs May and June event descriptions by mid-December in order for printer to process the postcards over and around the holidays so ready to distribute as soon as possible after January 1st. **Deadline** set for **December 13th**. **Lynne** will email hosts to remind of the deadline.

Adjournment

MOTION 3: Keith Sealing moved to adjourn the meeting. Averill Shepps seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.