



PENNSYLVANIA WINE SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2024

Call To Order

President Robyn Meadows called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

In Attendance: Board members – Lynne Beeson, Scott Casper, John May, Robyn Meadows, Stevie Posey, and Averill Shepps.

Review and Approval of July Minutes

MOTION 1: Scott Casper moved to approve the July 8th minutes previously distributed. Averill Shepps seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of Treasurer's Report

MOTION 2: Averill Shepps moved to approve the Treasurer's Report previously distributed. Scott Casper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Newsletter and Website Update

NEWSLETTER: Lynne Beeson shared next deadline as in the report distributed previously, and noted articles due.

WEBSITE: Lynne Beeson requested blogs for the website. Robyn will continue the *Lesser-Known* series for Wine Knowledge with Michigan. Robyn already submitted *What You Missed* for Rosé.

Social Media

Stevie Posey noted no changes. Playing up events and posting photos post events.

Past Events

- **Portugal on the Greens, Sunday, July 14th at NOON** – Robyn Meadows Host/Stevie Posey Cohost. Fantastic event. Very nice venue. Salt cod was salty for one member's taste. Wines were very good. Event finished with excess, though Greystone servers did overpour, and we needed to open an extra bottle of one wine and also overpoured the Port. Venue to consider again.
- **Rosé Friday, August 9th** – Robyn Meadows Host/Lynne Beeson Cohost. Real education in an informal setting – people who claimed they didn't like rosé, liked all the wines. Exemplifies our ongoing goal of trying to get people to come to things they think they may not like. Hilton was wonderful – food good, everything ready and set up for us at 5:30. Tomato jam was sweeter than expected but also liked by others. People were reading the handout and making notes on it which supported our education endeavor as well.

Upcoming Events

- **Riedel Glassware Experience, Friday, September 20th** – Lynne Beeson Host/Scott Casper & John May Cohosts. Main concern is participation. Event is posted on our website of course, but also on Local Wine Events and the Riedel website.

Program Planning for 2025

Continuation of dialogue from last month with members updating their proposals as follows.

Robyn – Best of the Finger Lakes (August to Fall); Australia and New Zealand (Any non-winter month due to Kevin's travel)

Scott – Italy – June; Board Selections walk-about event in October

Lynne – Eric Miller (grape of his choosing) and Brian Stwalley (Riesling or other of his choosing). No months asked of these speakers awaiting others to choose. Eric is solid; Brian not yet solid. Lynne does have a couple back-up event ideas.

Keith – Mexico is producing great wines (PA availability may be tough); an event at Aura? No update – Keith not present.

John – Shenandoah Wine Trail and/or PA and Neighbors (MD, VA, NY); Shiraz/Syrah; thinking on another idea

Stevie – Summer informal winery event?

Lynne/Robyn Non-Champagne Sparkling Wines - Aura? Harvest? Other? Possible March event for Women and Wine with women winemakers list Lynne was able to get from wine.com

Dialogue again regarding attendance 25% of membership. Noted that wine drinking is decreased all around the world. People are not drinking wine as they used to. Beer industry and spirits industries are booming. And wine availability in the PLCB system is not as it used to be. The system carries less products from small producers, less fine wines. Also, the system no longer will transfer store to store as they once did; so desired wines may be available in Pittsburgh or Philadelphia, but we can't have those transferred.

Follow-up to last month's brief dialogue regarding continuing practice of 12 events per year. Noted some members inability to do more than two events per year. Noted again the danger of losing more members or more attendance with schedule gaps added to peoples' existing gaps in attendance for work or other.

MOTION 3: John May moved to commit to 10 events in 2025. Averill Shepps seconded the motion. 4 supporting; 1 opposed. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee

Discussion noted current small size of the Board and resulting lack of eligible committee members as well as experienced committee members.

MOTION 4: Scott Casper moved to suspend indefinitely the provision of the bylaws for Nominating Committee to be made up of persons in positions not slated for election. Averill seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Scott Casper, John May and Averill Shepps appointed to serve as the Nominating Committee for December 2024 elections.

New Business

There was no new business presented.

Adjournment

Averill Shepps moved to adjourn the meeting. John May seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, meeting was adjourned by Robyn Meadows at 7:43 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.