**Lamorinda Wine Growers Association**

Minutes

Monday, January 8, 2018

Deer Hill Vineyards, 6 Lois Lane, Lafayette

Board Members Present: Bill Scanlin, Larry Thal, Carol Haag, Leslie Ward, Susan Captain, Tim Wedlake, Daniel Howsepian and Doug Spear

Board Members Not Present: Tony Inzerillo

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by President Bill Scanlin.

Minutes for the December 4, 2017 meeting were presented. There were no corrections. Approval was moved by Carol and seconded by Susan and passed unanimously.

Tim provided an abbreviated Treasurer’s report which indicated that LWGA has a current bank balance of approximately $3,686. The final insurance bill was paid in the amount of $957. This continues to be LWGA’s largest obligation. Tim will send electronic copies of our two policies (Directors and Officers, as well as General Liability) to Carol and Larry and they will search for lower cost alternatives.

Bill led a discussion about LWGA upcoming events. In addition to the January 28th and April 29th quarterly meetings, a spring event is also being contemplated. Doug will search out possible venues. For January 28th it was suggested we explore the Moraga Hacienda with a request that the Town of Moraga present on the future plans for the Hacienda. The Moraga Theatre was also suggested as a possible event site, especially for the spring meeting which could incorporate a party, open wine tasting, wine competition and AVA celebration. Doug will also consider hosting this event with the Moraga Foundation as a partial fundraiser.

Susan reported on the status of the Moraga draft ordinance. The next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 16th. Bill and Susan will insure that a notice is sent to all LWGA members with the hope of having a strong presence at the meeting, especially from Moraga residents. The current direction of this ordinance has been complicated by misinformation being put forth about the advisability of setbacks, the differences between residential and agricultural zoning, who would be affected by this ordinance, the validity of concerns about use of pesticides, the difference between a home occupation and agricultural use, etc. Thanks to Susan the Town of Moraga is more aware of the impact of this draft ordinance and its consistency with the Town’s own General Plan. It appears that there is some concern on the Town’s part about moving forward with the plan as currently written. Susan and Carol recommended that LWGA make a very strong statement about our objections to proposed setback requirements and as a result Larry moved the following, seconded by Susan and passed unanimously:

*The Lamorinda Wine Growers Association, at its meeting January 8, 2018, unanimously approved a position in opposition of requiring vineyards to have a special setback requirement which would be different than that for any other agricultural or landscaping use.*

Elections for board members are coming up. Those with terms expiring are Bill, Carol and Susan. Bill will continue to solicit volunteers to serve on the Board.

Bill reported briefly on the recent LWGA member survey. While it is clear that our membership would like to see more education at our events and would also like a centralized production facility (cooperative crush facility) there is no clear direction as to how to satisfy these needs. The Board will continue to seek solutions and recommendations.

A motion was made by Bill to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lawrence Thal, Secretary