**Lamorinda Wine Growers Association**

Minutes

Monday, September 10, 2018

Deer Hill Vineyards, 6 Lois Lane, Lafayette

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

Board Members Not Present: Susan Captain, Doug Spear, Tony Inzerillo and Gerard van Steyn

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by co-president Carol Haag.

Minutes for the August 6, 2018 meeting were presented. There were no corrections. Approval was moved by Bill and seconded by Leslie and passed unanimously.

Leslie introduced the publisher of the *Orinda Living Magazine*, Elaine Ebner, who was accompanied by the magazine editor, Nicole Radlow. They discussed the magazine content and purpose and offered to include an article about the LWGA. Larry and Leslie will provide them additional content in time for their next publishing deadline September 14th.

Tim provided a Treasurer’s report which showed a balance in the LWGA treasury of $4,146.

Due to the fact that four Board members were absent the Bylaws were not reviewed at this meeting. Instead, all Board members are being asked to submit to the secretary any comments they have no later than September 26th. Comments will be circulated to Board members along with the agenda for the October 1st meeting. The most recent Bylaws, those approved at the February 9, 2015 General Meeting, are attached to these minutes. Comments should be sent to [LarrySThal@gmail.com](mailto:LarrySThal@gmail.com). It was noted that one Board member has been inactive and Carol agreed to advise him about the LWGA policy with regard to more than three unexcused absences.

Due to the absence of Gerard (excused absence due to a surfing accident) the review of our overall meeting plan was deferred until next month.

Carol reported for Susan on the arrangements being made for the December 6th Holiday Party. Susan has secured the Serbian Church on School Street in Moraga for this event. The cost to the LWGA will be $200 plus $5 per attendee for place settings and silverware. (There is also a $500 deposit for damage which will be returned after the event.) We must identify a caterer from a list provided by the church. LaFinestra is one of the approved caterers. (Outside caterers could be used if approved in advance.) Susan will finalize the venue contract and present a recommendation and draft caterer contract to the Board for approval by e-mail so that final action can be completed at the next meeting. It was suggested that Susan provide these details as soon as possible but in no case not later than September 26th in advance of the next Board meeting. Bill will send all LWGA members a “save the date” once Susan provides suggested language which is to be approved by the Board by e-mail. Daniel presented an event planning matrix to use for LWGA events. It was agreed that the matrix would be used for the holiday party and Bill is to post it as a working document for future events. It was suggested that Susan begin with it to post the elements and timelines for the event and should coordinate with Bill.

Bill discussed the Lafayette Art and Wine Festival September 15 – 16. He and Bill English attended the mandatory Chamber of Commerce orientation meeting so that both days are covered. There will be three slots on Saturday and two on Sunday. The time slots for Saturday are 10:00 am until 7:00 pm and on Sunday from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm. The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce will be billed for the wine used at wholesale, less a 25% donation. LWGA participants are:

* Thal Vineyards
* Los Arabis Vineyards
* Deer Hill Vineyards
* Vincenza Ranch
* Meadow View Winery

Daniel discussed the next LWGA member meeting which will be at Thal Vineyards on September 30th. He will present the winners of the red wine competition and we will try to assemble a panel of experts to answer questions from members about vineyard management and care, and possibly what growers are doing right or wrong and why they might be disappointed with their harvest this year. Gerard and Daniel will suggest to Larry some possible speakers.

A motion was made by Leslie to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lawrence Thal, Secretary