**Lamorinda Wine Growers Association**

Minutes

Monday, April 1, 2019

Deer Hill Vineyards, 6 Lois Lane, Lafayette

Board Members Present: Bill Scanlin, Carol Haag, Larry Thal, Tim Wedlake, Leslie Ward, Gerard van Steyn, David Hicks, Bill English, Susan Captain and Daniel Howsepian.

Board Members Not Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by President Bill Scanlin.

Gerard provided sommelier training for 10 minutes prior to Board business being discussed.

The March 4, 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed and approval was moved by Carol, seconded by Susan and approved as written.

Tim Wedlake provided a Treasurer’s report which showed a balance in the LWGA treasury of $4,800. Federal and California tax returns have been completed and filed online. The Post Office box has been closed. Annual insurance premiums still due are $3,000. Our PayPal membership is $360 annually. (Tim was reminded to explore whether PayPal provides discounts to non-profit organizations such as ours.)

Bill Scanlin reported that the forum tab he recommended last meeting is being withdrawn from consideration as it is not something currently supported by our current website and is fraught with authentication issues. Despite being approved at the previous meeting of the Board the suspension of this recommendation was approved by consensus. It was again noted that the President will need to appoint a new membership committee chairperson.

The Board reviewed LWGA Bylaws and made the recommendation that the following areas be amended:

* Bylaws currently state that member meeting will be held quarterly the last Sunday of January, April, July and October. Since that is not our current practice it is advisable to amend the Bylaws accordingly.
* Bylaws should reflect that all LWGA publications, including our website, will not be used for endorsements for services or supplies unless approved by the Board and appropriate endorsement or advertising fees are collected.
* While Bylaws are clear that one person can serve in more than one officer position, they should be amended to clearly state that only one person can occupy a single position.
* Bylaws should clearly state that LWGA does not share or sell its membership lists to outside individuals, commercial entities and/or other organizations.
* We should correct references to Lamorinda and refer to the AVA, where appropriate.
* As many as two persons may be accepted as active members who do not meet the existing criteria, but, in the opinion of the Board have significant experience in wine growing, wine making or wine marketing, so as to provide valuable experience to the Corporation.

After discussion of these proposed Bylaw amendments Bill English moved approval, Leslie seconded and the proposed changes were approved unanimously.

Plans for the annual Holiday Party were discussed and there was consensus that Susan confirm the same venue and that Leslie confirm Diamond Dave. In general, the Board agreed that we should continue with the same format as this past year; however, it was agreed that the bar should be closed during formal presentations, that we reserve a distinguished visitor table and they be acknowledged, and that we organize our wine pouring by varietal and that we allow controlled self-pours. The last Holiday Party generated a net profit of $1,400.

Carol provided an excellent review and discussion of initial responses to the draft Strategic Planning Survey. It will be sent to members prior to our next meeting. The next steps would be to prioritize our goals for discussion with the membership at large and to edit LWGA’s core values to better reflect the organization’s current and future needs.

A motion was made by Larry to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lawrence Thal, Secretary