

Ohio Wine Producers Board Minutes

Holiday Inn Express, Ashland Ohio Dec 16, 2019

Present: Donna Roberts, Mary Tebeau, Joe Juniper, Dustin Heineman, Ed Trebets, Eric Cotton, Anita Davis, Andrew Codispoti

Guests: Paul Roberts, Julius Schwartz, Chad Edwards (Caesar Creek)

Absent: Maura Meranda, Dan Mastropietro, Mark Zdobinski, Walter Borda

Staff: Donniella Winchell

President Ed Trebets called the meeting to order at 10:42 AM.

Minutes

The minutes from the face to face meeting Sept 9, and notes from conference call Oct 7 were approved as presented. [Heineman/Cotton; unanimous].

Financials

Director Winchell presented the financials with notations:

- Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual Income: Interest Income of \$563.66 is from the Capital One Credit Card; OWPA Membership & Dues dollars does not reflect income for Dec dues
- Under Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual Utilities Elec Garb Expense – includes utilities & garbage for VO and was previously reported under Vintage Ohio expense
- Profit & Loss by Class Events – License to steal Ohio has \$8700.00 outstanding; Preview Day expense higher partly due to event was held at another hotel last year
- Profit & Loss by Class Trails – Corkboards will net \$1,000.00; expecting around \$8,000 more from Tannenbaum Trail event and from Deck the Wreath Trail

Eric Cotton moved to accept financials seconded by Mary Tabeau; unanimous.

Old Business

Vintage Ohio – successful and profitable. Bills were paid off in Nov; Director Winchell hopes to keep the same theme “Keep Ohio Grown Vinifera” and have a blind vinifera tasting with Todd Steiner involved

Sponsorship program for contracts from vendors, businesses for Vintage Ohio

Uncork Ohio Update – 335 boards sold, and have approximately 30 boards left

Horticulture program – Vo-ed high school for possible career path in viticulture. Ed and Eric on the committee

Vines and Wines brochures in process now – anticipate 32 pages. Heather Kovacic, new hire, is handling this

Shores & Islands brochures will be printed next

Nov 8 Scenic Byway Awards – nice PR from this event held at the Lodge

Good Night Bag – determining leadership for this project; hoping for a spring release

New Business

Office Staff Update

- Erin Cicero – OWPA employee - works 4 days (20 hours) working on Winter dinner at Farmpark, Ice wine event, Podcast project which is in process and detailed handout included in board packet.
- Sense of place project & On-Premise project – currently on hold
- Marla Stanley – working 6 – 8 ½ days per month due to family issues – Tastemaster & Medical Friends of Wine projects on hold

Other/Upcoming Events

- Media FAM tours (similar to Scenic Ohio tasting after awards)
- Ice Wine Event/Picking - Jan 24th at Ferrante & Debonne' with subsequent Ice Wine Dinner at FarmPark
- Board was reminded to keep information on OWPA website updated
- Youngstown Winter Wine Affair – Jan 18; 172 tickets sold
- Lancaster LTS agenda complete www.NationalWinemarketing.com Mar 10 (newbie day), Mar 11, 12
- LTS Ohio – part of Grape & Wine Conference second day – agenda set – possible WSET Level 1 opportunity
- \$50 rebate for OWPA member if attending License to Steal conference
- ADA Compliance – hoping for webinar spring 2020
- Julius Schwartz has been attending OWPA board meetings this year and is interested in being a board member
- Query about Health Insurance – after discussion from previous years in researching this – Director Winchell will refer people to their Chamber for information
- Food & Fire Safety Meetings – everyone is subject to inspection if there is urgent and undeniable risk; no one is exempt

Board Terms and Upcoming Election - Maura & Walter will not seek re-election in 2020. Eligible for re-election: Members up for re-election: Andy, Donna, Joe, Mary, Dan, Joe, Anita & Eric - Anita and Eric were elected to 1-year terms replacing the Karen & Lee.

- A 2 F – after much discussion, conversation reverted to the original goal of how to get more grapes in the ground and to maintain authenticity. Question was asked if there is another way to achieve that goal. Director Winchell said she will check with her contacts from Portman and Browns office on possible subsidies/grants for revenue. Director Winchell suggested a board road trip early April to DC.
- Monthly Board Conference call **Jan 13, 2020 9:30**

With no other business from the floor the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm. [Roberts/Trebets; unanimous]

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Roberts

Board Secretary