

Minnesota Grape Growers Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Zoom

November 25, 2024

I. Roll Call and Agenda Review

Josie Boyle called to order the Monthly Meeting of the Minnesota Grape Growers Association Board of Directors at 9:04 am on 11/25/24, over Zoom.

Drew Horton and Madeline Wimmer present. Soon Li Teh joined around 9:30 am.

Roll call

X	Josie Boyle	X	Jenny Ellenbecker
X	Krista Kopperud	X	John Taylor - joined at 9:23am
X	Becca Moinichen	X	Paige Bouc
X	John Howe		Richard Uytdewilligen
	Blake Luehmann	X	Jameison Lindquist
X	Bryan Forbes		
X	Randy Gutzman		
X	Ben Banks		
	Kevin Kautz		

Board Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome, Roll Call and Agenda Review – Josie Boyle

- a. Agenda approval - motion to approve by Jameison, seconded by Bryan

2. Minutes Approval – Becca Moinichen

- a. 10/28/24 Minutes - motion to approve by Randy, seconded by Krista

3. Finance Committee – John Taylor

a. Treasurer's Report - Moved info over to John Taylor at US Bank. Wrong accounts were originally opened. Currently working on moving bank accounts over to the right accounts. Then, Josie, John and Krista will all have access to those accounts. Still need to switch over notifications to John to get him access to pull financial statements. John to forward those files over to Josie or Becca for next meeting.

- b. PO Box changed, taxes filed

4. By-laws and Membership - John Taylor

a. Finalize proposed by-laws changes - Josie sent out finalized changes yesterday. Not changing the document completely, just updating the current file. The want was for everyone to look over again and propose any other suggestions and/or changes. Drew said he really liked the changes that we are proposing. Board approval to move forward with listening sessions and present final changes to membership at the February conference - motion by Bryan, seconded by Krista

b. Schedule listening sessions for membership - Not scheduled yet, but plan for one in December and one in January with an option of a third in January. Committee to schedule 2-3 listening sessions for the next few months.

5. Website and rebranding - Josie Boyle / Luke Stultz

a. Gish & Co. proposal - Luke not present. He has been in communication with them. Looked over the proposal, but didn't vote on anything without more information from Luke - this quote is just for the rebranding, not ongoing website costs. - Luke joined at 9:27am - Hourly rate is \$100. Technical assistance is figured into the quote - 10 hours. Luke to find out the monthly cost of YM. Going to change the website once there is approval of the name change. Luke to pull all information from the current website - membership records, financial records. More information to come for the next meeting. No voting today.

6. ICCWC – Ben Banks

a. Update - newly engraved cup and with the winner. His next steps are to be done after the rebranding. Drew asked when the competition is going to be in 2025. Ben says May or June would be the goal, May would be best. Drew was in support.

7. Cold Climate Conference – Josie Boyle

a. Water Street Inn contract - Josie and Randy met last week with the coordinator. No contract yet, but it's in the works. Dates are scheduled for Feb 25-26, 2025 (Tuesday/Wednesday). Day and a half of sessions - full day on Tuesday, Wednesday until lunch. Some ideas for sessions were discussed last week at the committee meeting - enough ideas for a vineyard track and enology track. Josie showed a proposed schedule - idea to split ballroom up for the two tracks. Proposed UMN update at the conference and potentially taste a few wines. Madeline elaborated on an idea for an herbicide drift listening session, more in 2026-2027 for outreach. Soon Li asked for a longer timeframe for the UMN update session. Madeline suggested more of a beginners track - basic instruction. Soon Li asked about bringing in speakers from another state - recommended **Chris Brundrett**, owner of William Chris Wine Company from out of state, but he is a little more out of our budget. Josie to propose a budget at the next meeting.

b. Send save the date to membership - Josie to write and Luke to send to membership and passed attendees. Get a listening session announcement in that email, too. The Illinois conference is now at the same time as ours. Bryan proposed a potential in joint conference - "Midwest Conference". Hotel rooms are \$169 plus tax per night.

8. Legislative Committee – Jenny Ellenbecker

a. Action items for legislative session - John Howe and Jenny to schedule a legislative meeting. Still working on everything from the last meeting. John said we need to make a decision about what to do with the state grape and licensing updates. The legislative session should start Jan 3 or 4 and run through April.

9. Wine Marketing Committee – Josie Boyle

a. No meetings, yet. No update. Discussed some about moving forward with a wine/food/beer fest event, selling bottles of wine at Feast.

10. New Business

a. None

11. Adjourn - Motioned by John Taylor, seconded by Bryan at 9:59 am.