

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FEB 12th, 2020
AT ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 164 MAIN ST., WOLFVILLE**

Members in Attendance:

Brian McKibbin, Jim Ferguson, Bob MacDiarmid, Art Ward, Gary & Pat Constantine, Steve & Roseline Cochrane, Peter Gnemmi, Deb Moreau, Bruce & Elayne Mott, Harry Beach, Andre d'Entremont, John Starr, Donna & Richard Paisley and Peter Jucker.

Regrets: Alan Baker Steve & Karen Ells, Peter Jackson and Kevin MacIntyre

Opening & Welcome:

Brian McKibbin opened the meeting at 7:06 pm and welcomed all. Brian asked Gary Constantine to give everyone an update on Alan Baker's situation. Alan has been in the VRH for several weeks and recently had his left leg amputated. Gary and Pat are visiting him regularly and so do some of his other friends and club members. Alan is sending his regards.

This is Roseline's first meeting as Vice President. It was brought to my attention a few days later that Alan (from the Hospital bed) made sure Roseline was given a sheet of pointers/reminders of the protocol associated with running a meeting. I'm sure this was appreciated by our new VP.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

The Minutes of the January 9th, 2020, meeting were approved as submitted.

Wine Doctor:

Andre opened a bottle of 2018 Tempranillo/Shiraz blend, it opened with a noticeable pop. It had mysteriously started to ferment again in the bottles. Both batches had gone through malo, the problem could have been the result of back-sweetening and followed by potassium sorbate addition. Andre thought he probably made every possible mistake, but in the end, when serving the wine through a vinturi aerator, it has become an acceptable house wine.

Correspondence:

Reminders to pay the annual club dues had to be sent to 21 members recently.

Business Arising:

Brian proudly unveiled the shiny new AVV Annual Non-Grape trophy. Gary Constantine, Chair of the Committee put forth a motion for the membership to accept this trophy. Seconded by Art Ward, carried by all.

John Starr asked how the Executive felt about the Financial Statement 2019; income and expenses virtually the same even though we did not have to pay rent for venue of the Provincial Competition, nor did we make any payment to AWNS as we did in years past.

Brian explained that the entry fee increase of \$2.50 for the National Competition will raise funds that are meant to go to AWNS. Also, the annual membership fee had been raised from \$10 to \$20 in 2019.

This year's vineyard tour will be at Mercator's.

New Business:

Brian announced that Saturday, May 30, 2020, is the date of the Provincial Competition. Location: The Ells Farm. Party on Sunday afternoon, May 31st.

Brian has already contacted several judges to find out if they can help again.

Peter Gnemmi has found another fantastic book "The Botanist and the Vintner" by Christy Campbell.

Adjourn Business Meeting:

Motioned by John Starr, seconded by Pat Constantine.

Technical Session:

Our guest speaker today was Melanie Eelman, cider maker at Annapolis Cider Company. Her presentation was “Making Wine Without Grapes”. This was a very well put together overview that was informative not just to the two club member that often excel with their fruit wines (both of them sitting in front row seats). Handouts were available to all present. Melanie certainly knows her métier. Thank you very much.

Non-Technical Session:

Elayne Mott. Thank you for the Valentines. There was a good selection of country wines available to close out the evening.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 11th, 2020.

Minutes prepared by Peter and Frances