

United States Association of Cider Makers

Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 26th, 2015 4pm – 5pm EST
Phone Meeting

Call to Order: A Board of Directors meeting was held via phone conference. Members in attendance: Mike Beck, Dan Rowell, Brad Page, Robert Vail, Scott Donovan, James Kohn, Charlotte Shelton, Bruce Nissen, Dan Wilson. Also in attendance: Sue Husch and Ellen Serr of QBS Event Management.

Item: Accept Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Scott Donovan. Charlotte made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Brad seconded. All members were in favor and the minutes were approved. There were no changes to the current agenda.

Standing Agenda Items

Item: Budget Discussion

James said that CiderCON is on budget so far. James requested that the USACM sponsor the wi-fi at the conference, at a cost of about \$20,000. Also discussed if we wanted to have food at the welcome reception.

Item: Conference Update

James said that our registration is ahead of last year, with approximately 500 attendees so far. Registration rates increased on January 10th, and registration closes on the 23rd.

Item: Annual Business Meeting Discussion

The annual business meeting will be one hour long, followed by one hour for elections. Nora Weiser from the American Cheese Society will preside over elections. QBS will put a preliminary meeting agenda together for discussion at the next meeting.

Open Issues

Item: Code of Ethics/Member Code of Conduct for bylaws

Scott brought up that the Board of Directors has no “Code of Ethics” guidelines in the bylaws. He noted that many organizations do – mainly to protect the organization as a whole and provide verbiage that the membership shall abide by a stated code of ethics. Discussion about not changing the bylaws as a whole, but rather making a code of ethics more of a governing document that will provide guidelines to provide a definition of “member in good standing”. Scott will provide an example of wording to be discussed at the next meeting.

Item: Awards

During the Awards sub-committee meeting, it was decided to award three awards during CiderCON – the definition of such being “Significant Contribution to the Cider Industry”. Since these minutes will be published before the conference, editor chooses not to name the recipients. James made a motion to hold the awards; Dan Wilson seconded. All in favor – motion passed.

New Business

Item: Membership Survey

James talked about a membership survey for the USACM to gauge current and future demographics and how we can best address needs and interests. James will construct survey questions to be discussed at the next board meeting.

Charlotte moved to adjourn the meeting. Dan Wilson seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

The next board meeting will be held Monday, January 26th at 4pm EST