

United States Association of Cider Makers

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 28th, 2017

A Board of Directors meeting was held via phone conference. Members in attendance: Marcus Robert, Ryan Burk, Brian Shanks, Paul Vander Heide, Eleanor Leger, Dan Wilson, Eric Foster, Trevor Baker, Bruce Nissen, Dan Young. Missing was Ben Calvi. Also in attendance: Executive Director Michelle McGrath and Admin, Ellen Husch.

Call to Order

Eleanor Leger called the meeting to order. Dan Wilson motioned to accept the minutes of the last meeting; Paul seconded. Motion carried.

Finance Committee

Eleanor gave the finance committee report. There were no questions on the report. Eric motioned to accept the report. Brian seconded. Motion carried.

Bylaws Revision

Michelle reported that the revised bylaws are at the lawyers office and should be ready to share with the board at the next meeting. The Code of Conduct for board members is also being developed. Ben is checking with his HR department and Michelle is looking to also have them reviewed by a professional HR consultant. The code of conduct will include protocol in case of members drinking too much, sexual harassment, etc. We currently don't have a procedure on how to handle this type of situation. Michelle will also contact the Marriott to have their policy available for CiderCon attendees. One other bylaws note that had been discussed is not having a committee meeting without a board member present - which can hinder meetings. Board members felt that it was important enough to put in the rule book but not change the bylaws. Michelle asked for a committee of 4-5 people to review and approve the code when it's complete.

Lexicon Update

The New York Cider Competition has picked up the style guidelines and want to create a method for our members to participate in the competition. Members would get a discount to participate. Ryan offered to help Michelle develop guidelines for competitions. CINA does not yet have a glossary or vocabulary so board members felt it was important to work with them to mutually achieve our goals. Michelle will check with Jenn on the NY dryness scale to see if it will be ready to share by CiderCon.

Legislative Update

No major Legislative updates at this time. Still waiting to hear from the TTB on extension of the comment period. The USACM will be exploring legal language on fruit cider issues.

CiderCon

Elections will be taking place at CiderCon – those up for election this year are Eleanor, Ryan and Trevor. Dan Wilson and Bruce Nissen have the option to stay on or not – Dan elects to stay on for another year, Bruce is stepping down. Michelle will start doing more outreach on social media now that the schedule has been finalized. Ellen shared registration numbers which are slow right now but picking up more each day.

CCP Committee

Paul shared the work of the CCP Advisory Board. They are moving through each question from the current test and developing new questions. The board is also working on developing level two of the exam. Paul has been working with the collaboration of BJCP and CCP. He will be attending the judging program and invited other board members to do the same.

Meeting adjourned. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held Tuesday, December 19th at 1pm EST.