

United States Association of Cider Makers

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 15th, 2015 5pm EST

Call to Order: A Board of Directors meeting was held via phone conference. Members in attendance: Mike Beck, Justin Kissinger, Trevor Baker, James Kohn, Dan Wilson, David Cordtz, Dan Rowell, Bruce Nissen. Missing were Eleanor Leger, Ryan Burk, Scott Donovan. Also in attendance: Sue Husch and Ellen Serr of QBS Event Management.

Item: Accept Minutes

President Mike Beck called the meeting to order. David motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting, Bruce seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Standing Agenda Items

Finance Committee Update

Dan Rowell gave an update from the finance committee. They are still working on the budget and reminded people to send in expenses from the DC trip. Dan will forward an expense reimbursement sheet to board members.

Conference Committee

James gave an update on CiderCON. The committee has been looking at locations for future conference sites and proposes to use Chicago as an anchor city and rotate locations every other year. He is working on a contract to continue to use Hilton properties for conferences through 2022. He will draw up a contract with the Hilton and forward it to the board.

Legislative Committee Update

Justin updated the board on the Legislative committee. The Wyden bill continues to garner support. Justin said it's just wait and see what happens at this point.

Compliance Committee Update

No update

Marketing Committee Update

No update

Research Committee

Mike gave an update on the Research committee. They have had a lot of meetings and are currently working on ranking research priorities and developing an RFP. The committee is planning to announce grantees at CiderCON 2016.

Cider Certification Program

David gave an update on the Cider Certification Program. The committee was asked to stop using the name "Sicera" because it was too similar to Cicerone. The committee voted to simply refer to the program as

“The Cider Certification Program”. The call for instructors was successful with many different candidates expressing interest. The committee is currently vetting applicants and will begin to narrow down choices in the next month. David reminded board members to contact Ellen with any suggestions for teachers or interim director. Dan Wilson asked if the committee should consider waiting a year to put more work planning the program before going public. David was confident that the time to move was now, as the board had already voted unanimously to move forward with the program. The committee is also looking to offer online courses in the future for all three levels.

Exec. Director Update

James gave an update on the search for an Executive Director. He asked all committee chairs to forward a description of the job duties that they would like to see taken over by this position. Development of the position also depends on what the organization is willing to spend. There was a possibility of making salary dependent on growth of the organization. James will share a document with board members and asked that each one review it and add any further duties/descriptions so they can have a clear job description by the next board meeting.

Open Items

Item: Committee Contact List on Website

Ellen suggested adding a contact us area of the website. It was decided to create individual emails for each committee and list those.

Item: TTB Survey

Dismissed.

Justin motioned to adjourn; Bruce seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned.

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 20th at 5pm EDT.