

# **United States Association of Cider Makers**

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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

## **Call to Order**

Trevor called the meeting to order. Marcus moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Ben seconded; the minutes were approved.

## **Finance Committee**

Michelle gave a finance update. She noted that it's hard to judge which bills for CiderCon were coming in when but there is a positive budget thus far. We are getting sponsorship and final vendor payments in.

## **Legislative**

Michelle summarized the latest activities of the legislative committee and noted that they had talked in depth about getting a lobbyist for USACM. Michelle had spoken with three lobbyists in DC, and between those conversations and the feedback from the committee recommended hiring Mick Nardelli. He has worked with the USACM before, especially when the association was trying to get the CIDER act passed and went to DC for meetings on the hill with congressional representatives. Michelle proposed hiring Mick at \$3,000 per month for a six month contract while the CBMTRA is being discussed. The board suggests revising the budget with Mick included and vote on it in January.

## **Membership**

Membership is exceeding expectations, especially with the requirement of active membership prior to registering for CiderCon. Michelle will continue to contact past members who have not yet renewed.

## **Elections**

Trevor is leaving the board due to expanding business obligations. Paul, Ben and Dan Wilson will look at renewing their terms.

## **Bylaws changes**

Looking at changing voter requirements from being present at CiderCon to voting electronically. The interviews with potential candidates could be the week prior and announce the winners at CiderCon. Brooke suggests organizing a "get to know your candidates" and have voting over the three main days

of CiderCon. The board suggests moving forward for 2020 but felt it was too late to implement for this year. Michelle noted that with the growth of larger cideries in the US, our membership was not being fairly represented with the current makeup of the board of directors. Changes suggested will be discussed and voted on just after the new year in a special board meeting. Michelle will send language suggestions and schedule the board vote.

Meeting adjourned. The next board meeting will be the special bylaws change vote on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.