MHTG Board Meeting Minutes
31 Jan 2018
Club Space

Present: Mark Alfred, Paul McGuire, Dan Bush, Cheri Carr, Jason Walters, Peter Steinberg, Lee Jones, Nick Balazs, Doug Randall.

1) Call to Order – 18:35

Last meeting’s minutes APPROVED via e-mail in order to expedite distribution to membership.

2) Comments from Members – none

3) Board Introductions/Orientation/Vision

President Mark Alfred discussed the procedures for meetings and discussed how they operate, including open sessions for general meetings and closed sessions for personnel discussions or personally sensitive issues, also taking recommendations for committees and working with them on their activities, and other aspects of the meetings and board functions. Standing reports are from committees that have a specific function or a specific item and do not necessarily require meeting regularly. These include Grain, Holiday Party, and other things that do not require regular meetings. They can arise as ad hoc committees as well. As far as regular committees, most are open to all membership with the exception of finance, which has a fiduciary role, and needs to appoint people with a financial or accounting type background. The other committee that is appointed is the Great Taste Steering committee which provides oversight and direction to the Great Taste event. Great taste chair mainly decides who should sit on this committee. Board has ultimate oversite but they run mostly autonomously.

Mark Alfred said he would like to see the board operate as vision based, and would like to focus on the future and tackle a couple issues at a time that we would like to see improve or work on and combine that with the vision for the club itself and how we want to see it operate.

4) Officer Reports

PRESIDENT – Mark Alfred – First meeting. Welcome! Has been working with former president Mark Schnepper who continues to help with the transition. Mark Schnepper still has some access to presidential things so that he can help in moving forward. Mark Alfred said he would like to maintain some consistency in

how the president handles issues in terms of both inside and outside the organization.
Also working on some issues related to GT and Jason will talk about them later.
Transitioned VP duties to Paul McGuire.

VICE-PRESIDENT – Paul McGuire – Getting settled in, fielding questions from members, working with renewing members, working with Dan Bush on treasurer stuff. 447 members currently. Has some questions on how the board acts upon new memberships. We can handle them electronically to review the new members. Most on the list are renewals from a current member lapsing and rejoining. We can decide on how we want to handle reviewing new members. Our by-laws state that new members shall be acted upon by the board, this could mean processing or reviewing. Membership committee can review the language in the by-laws and see if it is relevant. For now the board will review the new membership list as the by-laws state. Membership list will be made available to the board.

TREASURER – Dan Bush– Handed out the budget reports and reviewed the numbers.

SECRETARY – Cheri Carr – No report

GT CHAIR – Jason Walters – Having a beer festival Aug 11! Jason is receiving emails regarding the fest and is getting up to speed. More under committee report.

5) At-Large Directors Report

President states he would like to have not only the officers have a time to report, but also the board members at-large. This can take place at this point of the meeting, and the at-large board members can state ‘no report’ or use the time to address issues.
Peter Steinberg stated Mark from Cambridge Pottery would like to pair up with the club again and have us out and make another run of mugs (some members still have theirs) and have pizza from the wood fired oven. All the board members responded positively to this and would like to see us go, it is a great family event. The mugs are well made and we ordered a lot back then so could do that again.

4) Committee Reports (Board Liaison)

Need to set committee liaisons with the new board members. It can depend on what is needed and what the board members interest is. Committees work on behest of the board. Liaison helps the chair of the board and reports committee activities.

CIDER and MEAD – Cheri Carr will continue as liaison –
Cider competition and panel discussion on Feb 21 at Wil-Mar. Will do the judging beforehand. Rita Jones is the current committee chair and has some cider maker judges lined up. We are taking entries now. Lake Farm Park is reserved for the pressing but still looking into options for future events and possibly this year.

CLUB SPACE – Lee Jones will be the new liaison –
Joe Farnsworth will be the chair of the committee. Talked about project completion at the recent meeting. Garage sale is April 22nd at the club space.

COMPETITION – Peter Steinberg will continue as liaison –
Meeting next week on Feb 13 and will elect a chair. The committee has been requested to provide judges for the Wine and Hop stout competition and they also want some schwag for prizes, all of which we can do. We have some new judges from the class last fall. We will reach out to see who else took the class last fall and has passed and is a judge. Lee will contact the participants. East side business club is willing to host our Badger Brew-off again, the first Saturday of November. There is a tasting exam scheduled for November also and hopefully a class prior.

EDUCATION – Doug Randall will take over as liaison –
Lee Jones reported that they met in Jan. Duane Busher is doing beer tasting and discussion events out at Wisconsin Brewing for the time being. They held one last month and it was fairly well attended according to Duane.
Feb 21 education night will be a Cider competition and panel discussion. In the future we are looking to possibly visit Working Draft, Drumlin Winery, Vintage in Sauk Prairie, Hop Haus, Viking, and possibly Giant Jones.
March 24 Fred is looking to plan a bus trip to Potosi and Toppling Goliath.
Mobcraft would like to do a quality control discussion for education one night.
March 16 will be the Potosi brew collaboration day.
Sour: Levi Funk is going to be collecting carboys with a wild yeast. Members welcome.

FINANCE – Dan Bush will be the liaison –
Meeting next week prior to the business meeting. Finance committee is comprised of members that have financial background. The president and great taste chair also serve as members ex-officio. They prepare club budget for the year, and provides guidance regarding budgetary matters. Help with ticket sales. Passed out 2017 year end budget. Was slightly ahead of a planned outcome regarding budget. Went over the numbers. The budgets are posted on the website. Looking to continue to move toward electronic systems, Quick books and web pay systems.

GIVING – Nick Balazs will take over as liaison –
Will be meeting soon.

GREAT TASTE STEERING Jason Walters will be the liaison –
Have been meeting monthly. Members of this committee are past event chairs, treasurer, and president, and the brewery liaison, to name a few. Has taking over the last couple meetings from the former chair. Working on the boat launch closing agreement and mapping the boundaries. Dollar amount remains the same and the fee goes directly to the Parks Dept. There are only a couple private organizations like ours that have a contract to close the launch, and it is expensive but worth it to our event. They are arranging a three year contract for us. Preliminary discussion with the police dept. occurring. Gathering information on similar events and staffing levels. Talking about upgrades to the brewery lists and making sure we have room for new breweries along with the traditional and well-loved breweries. Looking into ways to incorporate both. Looking to get some off the wait list and into the event without making large increases to the number of breweries. Testing the website greattaste.org. It looks great and is easy to navigate. Newly updated. Great taste eve events can add themselves and the team can click to add them, instead of having to add for them.

MEMBERSHIP – Paul McGuire will be the new liaison –
Greg Younkin was elected chair. GT position succession discussion, and they would like to advise the GT Steering Committee to choose which positions require understudies. Brought forth a membership code of conduct and looking to formalize that language.

WEB – Paul McGuire will be the new liaison –
Looking into google mail apps for non-profits, we are a “not for profit”, and not a non-profit so we need to look at what is available and what it would cost. It would be a very good idea to be able to hand over the officer email account as the positions change rather than using personal emails.

5) Standing Reports –

HOLIDAY PARTY: Successful event.
BREWING SYSTEM: Ralph Kuehn is taking over the brewing system from Nick.

6) Unfinished Business

Calendar and board meeting locations –

Sometimes the venues were very noisy and we had a hard time hearing and having privacy. The president stated he would like to have the board meetings largely at the club space. Occasionally we could have them at some traditional places like the Jordan’s Big Ten. Discussed whether we could get a separate room at certain places, and said that might work, and whether the club space works best. The general consensus was that the club space is the best with other exceptions.

7) New Business

A. Business Meeting Time –

Board will be at 7 on a regular basis.
Business meetings are at 8:30 historically but do we want to hold them earlier? What is available at Wil-Mar? What about meetings that occur before the business meeting? What about the members? When and if should we ask them?
Mark Alfred will talk to Wil-Mar to see if moving our room rental times (for the business meeting and the two committee meetings that occur prior) is even an option. After we see what the options are, we can discuss potential changes and a possible survey to the membership. Feb Business will be at 8:30 as usual.

MOTION TO MOVE TO A CLOSED SESSION by Jason Walters. SECOND BY Doug Randall. APPROVED. CLOSED SESSION.

MOTION TO MOVE TO OPEN SESSION by Doug Randall. SECOND by Paul McGuire. APPROVED.

B. Member Code of Conduct –

Lee Jones researched homebrew club codes of conduct and created a document for us to work with and decide what we would like to see as our club's code of conduct. Once the board agrees to what the document should or will say, we will have the club attorney vet it for us. It is a document that could be incorporated to terms and agreements when a person pays dues and joins the club. The document lists the expectations of a club member and contains wording indicating the member is responsible for their own actions and the club is not held responsible. The board reviewed the document and suggested some potential revisions. Membership committee will move forward with the board suggestions and the attorney to finalize the document and bring it back to the board.

C. Social Reimbursement –

Dan Bush stated the previous treasurer was generally present at social meetings to settle the tab following the subsidy. Dan would like to see the board and/or appointed members or chairs be able to settle up this subsidy since he may not be present at all socials to do this. The board felt this was reasonable and would like to see an additional bank card or two - with limited funds and limited circulation - be available to limited appointed persons for this purpose.

8) Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Doug Randall. SECOND by Jason Walters.
ADJOURNED 21:34

Respectfully submitted 2-03-2018 by Cheri Carr, Secretary

Board meetings are open to the membership. E-mail the president in order to get a topic on the agenda. The board strives to provide open communication and transparency, and encourages an active and involved membership.

CALENDAR

2/14	Second Wed Social, Malthouse, 7 pm
2/21	EDU, Cider competition and discussion, Wil-Mar
2/28	Fourth Wed Social *TBD.* Board meeting 7 pm
3/7	Business Meeting, Wil-Mar
3/14	Second Wed Social, Malthouse, 7 pm
3/16	POTOSI COLLABORATION BREW DAY
3/21	EDU *TBD*
3/28	Fourth Wed Social, *TBD.* Board Meeting 7 pm
4/4	Business Meeting, Wil-Mar
4/11	Second Wed Social, Malthouse, 7 pm
4/18	EDU *TBD*
4/22	GARAGE SALE, Club Space
4/25	Fourth Wed Social, *TBD.* Board Meeting 7 pm

OTHER EVENTS:

2/11	“Save Second Base” Breast Cancer Benefit Dexter’s 12-6