

MHTG Business Meeting Minutes
7 Nov 2018
Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center

1) Call to Order

8:35 pm

2) Approval of last meeting minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES by Mike Dereszynski. SECOND by Doug Randall. MOTION APPROVED.

3) Officer Reports

PRESIDENT – Mark Alfred – Additional item of dues was added to the agenda. Started working on Great Taste. Been involved with some of the competition events like Badger Brew-off. Getting some initial planning on the holiday party. Thank you for your support. On ballot again for president.

VICE-PRESIDENT – Paul McGuire – 463 members. Homebrew introduced. Thank you for sharing!

TREASURER – Dan Bush – Went over the numbers. The last big great taste bill which was the ice, has been paid. Thank you for everyone understanding for the time off for surgery.

SECRETARY – Cheri Carr – No report

GT CHAIR – Jason Walters – We met and talked mostly about budget and the bottom line with income vs expenses. Not planning on raising ticket prices this year but will need to tighten belts. Working on more internal facing sponsorships. Last brewer payment went out to the brewer who were on the way to the Great Taste and were in an accident and totaled their vehicle and ruined their equipment. This was not their fault and we felt in good faith we would pay them the brewer payment since they were on their way to the event. Looking at the insurance. Working on using the economic impact statement, so that we have talking points for the city on what we bring to Madison in terms of the event. Fall trip coming up so that we can visit breweries that were at the event.

At-Large Directors

No reports.

4) Committee Reports

CIDER – Looking at setting up competition collaboration event in Feb for a mead. We did a cider one last Feb.

CLUB SPACE – Water system running again, other maintenance happening.

COMPETITION -. Last weekend was Badger Brew-off. Everyone involved did a great job. We had a fair amount of judges and were able to get everything judged that day. Mark Alfred says thank you to everyone who participated.

EDUCTION – Nov 21 at the Alchemy. Nov 28 will be at homebrew share at the club space. Will have more info in the email. Bring your homebrew, get feedback, share and enjoy your fellow club members' brews. Dec 5 will be Education planning meeting at Wil-Mar. Dec 19 aged beer night at Wil-Mar. Bring your old beers! On Jan 16 we will be judging the big beers from our big beer brew in. Coming up will be Wright Bower on Jan 23. Feb 20 likely the mead event depending on when we can get a speaker. Full Mile on Feb 27. Mar 6 will be a committee meeting. Also in March, a forage beers night. Let Brian Phillips know if you have ideas. A person we know owns a campground and wants to do a homebrew event, with camping space and demos of homebrew and a homebrew share. If people are interested, talk to Bob Paolino.

FINANCE – Finance had a meeting tonight. Wrapped up the budget recommendations. Finished the discussion on a new financial institution from the UW credit union, they told us that they are really not set up for our current needs now that the GT is so much bigger. We got proposals from local (local was important) banks, ultimately we decided on Park Bank. They have a few branches, they do community projects, and they can provide the services we need, they can handle our large deposit. Taking to the board for final approval. Finalized the budget tonight. Nothing out of the ordinary, mostly the same, with some growth in areas such as the grain program, we are happy to see so much homebrew here tonight as it is the core mission of the club and of the grain program. Going over the GT budget items, looking at possible items that could be cost saving measures, possibly more affordable glassware, and more internal brewer facing sponsorships. Brewers responded very well to this, and we do not want public facing sponsorships. Over the last few years we have been budgeting in a deficit and we are making that up. We have not raised the ticket

prices from \$60.00 for 6 years, and we were going to raise them sooner, but we are pulling strings elsewhere rather than raise prices. We are recommending a \$10.00 dues increase. If we do this we will be on target with our budget.

GIVING – Two proposals:

1. WORT donation was approved.
2. Luke House which provides meals.

Not much money left for the year. We have been getting acknowledgments including from Red Cross to whom we gave flood money. Thank you to the Giving committee from president.

GREAT TASTE STEERING – Will have a Great Taste this coming year!

Working on glassware, artwork, and we would like to get the art out early so those that need to work with it will have it. Looking at ways to sell more tickets or make up funds in other ways. Looking at more sponsorships that the public won't see. Trying to close the gap in the budget in various ways. Working with the city is going well this year, we have the park secured with the city including the boat launch. A while back the city reached out to us and others that put on events in that area to see about creating a space corridor in that area, including the coliseum and the park, and that entire area. They are looking to possibly improve that area with boardwalks and biking corridors. We were very impressed that the city was actually reaching out to us for our input and including us in the information gathering and planning phase because of our event. Check out the new boat ramp they put in at Olin. ☺ Let's try to guess how much it costs.

MEMBERSHIP – Nominations close tonight. Greg Younkin read the nominations. Excepting any nominations from the floor tonight. One nomination. MOTION THAT NOMINATIONS CLOSE by Greg Younkin. SECOOND by Mark Morrison. APPROVED. Election will be on-line and will end the first Wed of Dec (Dec 5), prior to the close of the business meeting. Candidate statements should come out so that they will be out before people begin to vote!!

WEB – Will be meeting soon to work on some small things. Consolidating some behind the scenes and working some email things. Mark Schnepfer asked if anyone has ideas on plug-ins and if anyone knows of a plug-in or third party app to push a message to brewers for the upcoming Great Taste brewer contacts. Possibly something that is similar to the election focused system, to create a plug-in for ease of managing volunteers. If you have ideas on any of this, talk to Mark Schnepfer or Paul McGuire. Some of this may go to the GT Steering committee. The Web committee will make a call for suggestions prior to the next meeting.

5) Standing Reports

GOODWILL TRIP: Will be in the Twin Cities this year. The email said there is a deposit but what we will do is collect the money for each days' tours each morning. We have a survey coming out to determine who will be on the bus each day and what the costs for each day depending on what you are needing meal wise etc.

GRAIN: The board will be receiving reports monthly for the grain program so that they can keep an eye on the budget/bottom line. There will be a report for the hops too to help monitor usage.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Jan 5. The old grain room at Capital Brewery has been turned into part of the beer stube, which means there will be more space for seating in the bar. There will be an email coming out soon for vols.

6) New Business

- A. Meeting Schedule for end of year** – no board meeting in Dec. No business meeting in Jan. Enjoy the holiday time with family and friends.
- B. Dues** – Proposal to raise dues by \$10.00. Will go forward from finance to the board. If we want to continue to hold this event and not raise the price for the tickets, raising the dues is a reasonable option. We get a lot out of what we pay in dues, and we do not want to raise the ticket prices to the public. Discussion. Dan Bush said that we do have “a brand” so to speak, we club members as a group use a large portion of our funds through the benefits we receive, even though we give away 30k a year. All of our trips, subsidies, beer, events, etc. come from the club funds and so we are looking to raise the dues members pay in by a small amount. As you know, we get a huge return from the club well over the dues we pay, and we would prefer this rather than to charge more to the patrons that come to the event. Nick Balazs said that the board of directors takes the recommendations from the committees, but the membership elects the board. Please contact the board if you have concerns, please contact the board via email or however you need to if you do not want to talk publicly about this or any issue. Dan said, we do not want to increase ticket prices, sell more tickets (city regulates this), or reduce any giving we do, but we need to be in a comfortable and sustainable place. Last time we talked to the club about the dues, it was brought up how most of the fun the club has is funded by the Great Taste. The fiduciary responsible thing to do is to be in a sustainable place without slashing the budget any more. Last time we

looked at dues was three years ago. If any members are having a hardship, we do have a method for a hardship in the membership handbook. It is completely confidential. If there is a problem, there is a mechanism. Mark Schnepfer said we have been looking at this very hard, and raising the dues may help for now, by paying \$10.00 extra per year. The last time we raised dues it did not affect the membership in any significant way. There are more and more beer fests, and we would like to stay in a reasonable price range. Jason Walters said that it is better to keep our own expenses down for our own events rather than raise ticket prices. We do not need to be the most expensive to prove that we are the best. Some discussion.

7) Unfinished Business - none

8) Adjournment

MOTION TO CLOSE by Doug Randall SECOND by Brian Phillips. APPROVED.
Adjourned 10:06p.m.

Respectfully Submitted 11-22-18 Cheri Carr, Secretary

Be an active member of your club by regularly attending your board and business meetings, and participating in committees.

CALENDAR

11/14	Second Wed Social, Malthouse 7 pm
11/21	Education: Social gathering at Alchemy, 7-10 pm
11/28	Fourth Wed Social, Homebrew Share Club Space 7 pm, Board 7
12/5	Business Meeting, Wil-Mar 8:30 pm
12/12	Second Wed Social, Malthouse 7 pm
12/19	Education: Aged Beer Night, Wil-Mar 8:15
12/26	Fourth Wed Social, <i>TBD. No board meeting for Dec</i>
1/2/19	<i>No Business Meeting for Jan</i>
1/5/19	HOLIDAY PARTY Capital Brewery

OTHER EVENTS:

none