

Outer Coastal Plain Vineyard Association
Minutes of 2019 Annual (1st Quarter) meeting – 2-7-19

The meeting was held at Bellview Winery and called to order at approximately 6 PM by Jim Quarella. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report. The treasurer's report was postponed due to the treasurer's unavailability for the meeting. The Association will post more specific information on the website regarding the current state of its finances.

Board Elections. Board Elections were held for 4 positions up for vacancy, those of Larry Sharrott, Jr., Dante Romanini, Bill Heritage & Todd Wuerker. Larry Sharrott and Dante Romanini were reelected to terms on the Board for terms that will expire in 2021. New board members Mark Hernandez and George Kelly were also elected to fill the vacancies left by Bill Heritage and Todd Wuerker who elected not to run. Those terms also expire in 2021. There were no other nominations from the floor and the vote was by unanimous voice vote.

Report on Marketing. Member Joe Procopio reported on activity at that the Board had authorized to begin marketing efforts related to an Instagram account. Joe created the account in December 2018 and it has been active. Joe reported that there has been growing activity on the account. It has been linked to the Association website. Joe asked that members share pictures of their vineyards and wineries for posting on the account. He will provide a list of information he is seeking which will be distributed to the members for participation in the Instagram effort. It will also include Joe's direct email for members use.

Italian Varieties. Jim Quarella updated the members on the Italian varieties' status. He explained the agreement that the Association has reached with Foundation Edmund Mach (FEM) in Italy on the licensing of the Italian varieties we have imported. The agreement will provide for a sharing of the revenue from the sale of the vines that have been propagated by Double A Nursery. The association will receive 40% of the income from the royalties on the vines and FEM will receive 60% until such time as benchmark numbers of vines sold have been reached. At that point the split will be 50/50. The royalty is \$1 per vine sold.

Jim and Dan Ward distributed pictures and information about the vines. Wine made from one of the red varieties, ECO1, grown at RAREC was tasted by those in attendance. Despite the difficult growing conditions of 2018, the wine had substantial color and body which bodes well for future production and vinification.

There are approximately 600 of the ECO1 vines available for sale and distribution this year with as much as 10,000 which may be available for 2020 planting. Also the researchers from FEM will be visiting New Jersey in early March to tour vineyards and attend Grape Expectations. They will be bringing commercially made wine (in Italy) from the imported varieties for tasting.

“Wine Grape Varieties for New Jersey.” Dan Ward presented the newly published book he and Larry Coia have authored regarding the wine grape varieties grown in New Jersey. The book is a full color comprehensive study of both the major and minor varieties grown. It contains valuable information for each variety mention based on years of data collected by Larry and Dan from NJ growers and winemakers. Dan has copies available for sale at \$20 each. He also hopes to have in published online as an Extension Bulletin. This is a very valuable book for both experienced and novice growers.

Miscellaneous. A general discussion was then held regarding the effect of the new minimum wage law and also about the potential problems that may arise due to the migration of the Spotted Lantern Fly.

Gary Pavlis advised the members on the upcoming Grape Expectations to be held on March 2 which will have an outstanding roster of participants including Lucy Morton and the researchers from FEM. Hemant Gohil mentioned that he is working on putting together a 2 day wine workshop. Information regarding this will be published in the near future.

The meeting ended at 7:30pm.

The next meeting of the Association (2nd quarter 2019) will be held on Thursday May 2, 2018 at 6PM.