

Free State Homebrew Club Guild Ltd.

Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2020

Minutes:

1) Start

- Toast to the new year.
- Pizza.

2) Elections

- No nominations for new positions, so the officers remain:
 - President - John Jester
 - Vice president - Les White
 - Secretary - Ben Schwalb
 - Treasurer - Chris Anderson
 - Electronic communications officers - Chris Gough and Tim Sauerwein

3) State of the Guild

- The officers are swamped with various issues such as health problems, opening a brewery, and/or running a business. It would be good if some folks could step up and take a few of these positions. The most pressing need is for a new President.

4) Guild non-profit status

- Not much progress. We still want to pursue it, mostly because being non-profit makes it easier to get donations for the holiday party.
- We would like a board of directors consisting of members of various clubs to form and take over this task.

5) Holiday party follow-up

- About 300 attendees total (paid + comp).
- \$9577 was netted for charities.
- Guild food consisted of ziti and salad from Les White and pies from Dan Klinglesmith.
- Club Hour 1.5
 - 10 clubs participated.
 - First year doing beer and food competitions in addition to door prize. Winners were:
 - Door prize - CRABS
 - Food - BaltiBrew
 - Beer - Go-BREW
 - Doing 3 different judgings made it take longer.
 - PDF files of judge sheets will be uploaded to the Guild shared folder.
- Big thanks to Tom Flavin for help setting up Friday night.
- Winning raffle numbers posted to social media posed a screen size problem for people checking on their phones. Next time we might have some iPads/tablets available for folks to use.
- Some folks were cherry picking raffle prize bags. How to prevent this?
- Some folks entered via other entrances, such as the tap room, and didn't get their tickets scanned. We need to put up signs to direct people. Also, the designated entrance was dark. We need a light.
- Heavy Seas didn't like that people put stuff (jackets, etc) on the conveyor belts.
- Square
 - Used successfully with only \$55.72 in fees.
 - We only had one reader, forcing some folks to pay cash for raffle tickets, and this hurt sales. Maybe have 2 readers next time.
- People wasted cups. We might have cups made with the Guild logo for future events, and we'll raise ticket price if necessary to cover the cost. The cup will not have a year or list of clubs on it, and it can be used for other events.
- No issues with takedown or restrooms.

6) Upcoming Guild and Guild-related events

- **BJCP course**

- Probably start in late February or early March.
- Les will send a message out by the end of January.
- **Big Brew**
 - Saturday May 2.
 - MDHB will host a big event as usual, with many clubs, food, raffle, etc.
 - Clubs hosting their own event might be eligible for a food stipend, and can also have it advertised on the Guild website by sending details to Chris Gough at realbeer@gmail.com
- **Guild picnic**
 - Saturday May 30, noon to dusk, at Patapsco Park, Hollofield area, shelter 300.
 - Features a wheat beer competition with cash prizes, and announcement of Guild Team Spirit winner.
 - Need a leader.
- **HomebrewCon**
 - June 18-20 in Nashville at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center.
 - Registration opens March 10. See <https://www.homebrewcon.org/2020-registration/>
 - Guild will have a table if there is enough interest.
 - Speak up if you want to help coordinate transportation of beer.
 - Registration for the National Homebrew Competition open now through January 22. See <https://www.homebrewersassociation.org/national-homebrew-competition/>
- **MASHOUT**
 - Weekend of either August 15 or August 22.
 - Dates TBA in spring.
- **Maryland State Fair Competition**
 - Judging location and date to be changed because judging on site is hindered by heat and farm smells.
 - Jeff Sanders is director.
 - Details forthcoming.
- **Zymernauts/SPBW/Guild crab feast**
 - Date TBA. Most likely September 19 or 26.
 - Leader TBA.
- **Holiday party** - December 5

7) Upcoming club events

- **FOAM's bus trip**
 - Saturday January 25.
 - Going to Montgomery County.
- **MALT's bus trip**
 - March 21 2020
 - Tentative stops: Tattered Flag Brewery & Still Works, Mt. Gretna Craft Brewing, Batdorf/Rotunda Brewing & Troegs
 - Additional details & prices coming soon.
- **Wootown's DC Brewery Trip**
 - Date TBA.
 - Considering a tour that involves MARC to DC, then Metro around the city. Stops could include Bluejacket, Right Proper, Free State, The Big Hunt & Capitol City Brewing.
 - Details coming soon
- **BURP's Spirit of Free Beer**
 - Saturday April 18 at Silver Branch Brewing.
 - Entry drop-off from March 19 to April 9.
- **Annapolis Homebrew Club's Pints for Paws**
 - Saturday June 13 at Naval Academy stadium.
 - Last year's event raised \$22,000 for charities.

8) Other upcoming events

- **Bus trip to Cecil County**
 - Sunday February 9.
 - Checkerspot and SPBW associated with it but not running it.
- **Max's Belgian Beer Fest**
 - February 14-17.
 - See details at <http://maxs.com/>
- **BJCP cider tasting exam**
 - Sunday March 1 in Washington DC.
 - Need to pass the online entrance exam first.
 - Email claphamsa@gmail.com to sign up.

- **Frozen Dead Guy Days**
 - March 13-15 in Nederland CO.
 - See <https://frozendeadguydays.org/>
- **American Meadmakers Conference**
 - March 17-19 at the Omni Interlocken Resort in Broomfield CO.
 - See <http://meadcon.net/>
 - Mazer Cup (international mead competition) judging on March 21. See <https://mazercup.org/>

9) **New business**

- Greg Parnas is working with a political action committee to change Maryland laws to allow beers to be shipped across state lines. For more info and/or get involved, email Greg @ greg.parnas@dcbeveragelaw.com
- Red Brick Station has about 20 of these side fill sankey kegs for sale for \$40 each. Please contact Rob Perry at rob@redbrickstation.com. These have a bung in the side of the keg that you remove and fill keg and replace with new bung.

10) **Treasurer's report**

- We have \$3708.10, including \$140 club dues collected at meeting.

11) **Club dues**

- \$20 per club.
- Make checks payable to Free State Homebrew Club Guild Ltd.

12) **Upcoming meetings**

- March 9, May 11, July 13, September 14, November 9.