

Viticulture Advisory Committee Meeting
11/14/23
Minutes

1. Welcome
 - a. Meeting called to order at 3:00pm.
 - b. Present: John Azevedo, Bob Dempel, Joe Dutton, Steve Dutton, Nick Frey, Karissa Kruse, Joan Patrick, Mark Sanchietti, Mel Sanchietti, Ryan Stapleton, Jim Young
 - c. Absent: John Balletto, Chris Bowland, Laura Breyer, Nicole Hayden, Michael Sangiacomo, Brent Young
 - d. Staff: Joel Grogan, Connor Murphy, Merilark Padgett-Johnson, Rachel Smith, Victor Tam
2. Approval of minutes
 - a. Motion to approve minutes from 4/13/23 from Mel Sanchietti, Second from Nick Frey.
 - i. Motion approved.
3. SRJC and Ag/NR update
 - a. Connor Murphy updated the department on SRJC and Ag/NR.
 - i. New classrooms – two new lab classrooms and computer classroom are up and running at Shone Farm for Fall 2023 classes.
 - ii. Events – Fall Festival was a success with 2,500-3,000 people in attendance. New SRJC President held the investiture event at Shone. Youth Pruning competition is taking place in January to prune block 8.
 - iii. Farm – taking out about ¼ acre olives trees and doing a cover crop demonstration. Taking out part of the apples and extending block 12. Trapping hogs in the vineyard.
 - b. Victor Tam introduced himself as the Dean of newly created STEAM cluster. Ag has moved into the STEM cluster.
4. Viticulture program update
 - a. Merilark provided the committee with spring class flyer.
5. Shone Farm Vineyard Harvest 2023 Summary
 - a. Mark went over the harvest summary with the committee. 2023 had the best yields since Mark has been here. Mark put together an overage contract with Purple for blocks 9 and 14. Yields were great on most, but Sauvignon Blanc was about average.
 - b. Merilark – this is with two blocks offline.
6. Winery Contracts Update
 - a. Mark went over the winery contracts with the committee.
 - b. The committee discussed removing block 8 due to red blotch.
 - c. Mark went over which blocks can be picked by machine –1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 14.
7. Update on Well Project Shone Farm

- a. Mark and Connor updated the committee on the well project. From the 4 sites evaluated, the best spot would be off of the main vineyard for easy access and power. The spots are based off of Mike Malone's report.
 - b. Connor's been working on getting three quotes to follow the District's regulations for purchasing.
 - c. The committee discussed collecting roof rainfall, and filling tanks for irrigation in the spring. John mentioned that the Gold Ridge RCD is working with Richard Hughes, and the committee could go out for a visit to see a farm that had already put this into action.
 - d. The committee recommended drilling past 350 feet if drilling through good material to maximize water output.
8. Update on Sanchietti Farming Contract w/ SRJC
 - a. Mark went over the process for updating the Sanchietti Farming Contract. Mark will identify about 3-5 hourly rates, get comparisons, and creates a simple package. Kate then presents the package to the JC Board and they vote to approve.
9. New Business
 - a. None.
10. Set date for Spring 2024 meeting
 - a. Tuesday, April 16th at 3:00pm at Gale Ann's Vineyard.
11. Meeting adjourn at 4:00pm.