**Vermont Cheese Council**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

April 20, 2016

11 am to 2 pm

**Present:** Tom Bivins, Meri Spicer, Jay Kerner, Michael Lee, Angela Miller, Clay Whitney (on phone)

**Absent**: Rachel Fritz Schaal, Andrew Kannler (jury duty), Stan Biasini, Jeremy Stephenson, Vince Razionale

**Resigned**: Lisa Battalana (illness)

Report on Marlboro College Board Leadership Workshop: by Tom Bivins

* Start to use a “Consent Agenda” for EC meetings which can be approved electronically; use “Dashboard” as a quick electronically distributed snapshot of VCC business to be sent prior to meetings
* Bylaw changes – add use of “Consent Agenda” when Bylaws are updated and reviewed by committees and membership.

EC vote to approve the

* Agenda for 4/20/16: move to approve Michael Lee, seconded by Meri Spicer, approved by all
* Minutes of 3/16/16, with addition of Clay Whitney as an attendee: move to approve Meri Spicer, seconded by Jay Kerner; approved by all
* Statement and Balance Sheet: move to approve by Jay Kerner, Seconded by Angela Miller, approved by all

Reports

* **Executive Director’s** Report to go out to all post meeting; **Chicago** Good Food conference: attending from VCC: Tom, Rachel; also CBF’s Peter Henry, and Twig Farm’s rep. Members are urged to send 1-4 lb sample of one or two cheeses. **Washington DC** event: info to come from Tom. **Whole** **Foods Market** CCP Mongers Vermont visit moving forward. **Membership** now at 38, but will likely exceed 50 by end of year. **Fancy Food Show** Summer – how can we get more VCC members to attend?
* **Education Committee** – three summer socials planned, and schedule will go out to members. Shelburne Farms, Consider Bardwell Farm, and Parish Hill Farm will host.
* **Festival Committee –** Lisa Battalana and her husband are not available because of her illness. Rory Stamp of Shelburne Farms has joined the committee, and Tom will approach VT Creamery for some staff help.

Discussions

* **Bylaw revisions**– Executive Committee members are reviewing the existing Bylaws for clarification of nomenclature, to conform with the current activities of the VCC, all in the hope of serving members more effectively. ED will collect edits and will consolidate. Proposed changes will be presented to the membership at the next Annual Meeting. Meri Spicer noted that the mission statement is different in the Bylaws and the Website, so conformity is necessary and should be correctly stated in the approved Strategic Plan when it goes to membership.
* **Strategic Five-Year Plan written by John Ryan** – need clarification of the activities and budgeting of the Marketing and the Education Committees and then send to membership. Final version of the Strategic Plan needs to be approved by the EC (?)

Executive Session: Not necessary.

Meeting adjourned: Meri Spicer moves to adjourn; seconded by Michael Lee, all in favor.