

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
March 22, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Nicewicz at 1:15 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Frank Carlson, Jon Clements, Win Cowgill, Carl Damateo, Bob Davis, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Mary Jordan, Ken Nicewicz, Mark Parlee, Tim Smith, Mo Tougas, Andre Tougas, and Steve Ware. Nicewicz gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Autio presented membership figures for 2006, with 45 active (28 of which are 10-year donor/members), 48 associate, 13 courtesy, and 5 life members. Autio also presented the minutes of the November 2, 2005 Directors' Meeting. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes as presented.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$40,745.87. Receipts to date totaled \$8,306.94, and disbursements totaled \$5,612.67. The balance on March 22, 2006 was \$43,440.14. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$542,708.05. A total of \$3,705.69 in receipts and \$2,075.33 in expenses have occurred to date. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on March 22, 2006 was \$555,743.25. So far in 2006, the Horticultural Research Fund has gained 2.4% in value (including income and expenses). The overall investment return was 2.1%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed.

Committee Reports

Legislative, Cider, UMass Fruit Advisory, and Labor Committees and the Trustees of the Horticultural Research Fund gave brief reports. Mary Jordan (Mass. Dept. Agricultural Resources), Kip Graham (USDA FSA), and Carl Damateo (Mass. Farm Bureau) gave brief updates from their respective organizations. The Marketing, Publicity, & Promotion Committee reported, and several motions were offered.

Motion: *The Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association will contribute \$250 to the 2007 Massachusetts Agriculture Calendar, with the hope of sponsoring September, with a apple photo.* The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Motion: *The Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association will appropriate up to \$1,000 to help fund the marketing work of Jane Eckert (if the proposal to the Commonwealth is funded).* The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Motion: *The Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association will continue to recognize individuals who provide outstanding support of the Massachusetts fruit industry.*

The award will be the Ronald J. Prokopy Award. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Autio presented a budget for 2006. After minor amendment, the budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

| Category | Budget 2005 | Actual 2005 | Budget 2006 |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Beginning balance | \$34,388.93 | \$34,388.93 | \$33,436.91 |
| Receipts | | | |
| Interest | \$200.00 | \$624.71 | \$600.00 |
| Membership | \$10,000.00 | \$9,860.18 | \$6,000.00 |
| Fruit Meetings (net income) | \$8,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$6,500.00 |
| Apple Market Report | \$350.00 | \$264.00 | \$300.00 |
| Proceedings | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Cider | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Summer Meeting | \$500.00 | \$710.00 | \$800.00 |
| Web page | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$0.00 | \$3,637.61 | \$500.00 |
| Total | \$19,050.00 | \$15,096.50 | \$14,700.00 |
| Disbursements | | | |
| Administration | \$2,000.00 | \$1,615.09 | \$1,700.00 |
| Proceedings | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Secretary/Treasurer salary | \$2,700.00 | \$2,700.00 | \$2,800.00 |
| Fruit Meetings (net cost) | \$0.00 | \$1,082.84 | \$0.00 |
| Affiliation | \$450.00 | \$450.00 | \$450.00 |
| Apple Market Report | \$350.00 | \$264.00 | \$300.00 |
| Horticultural Research Fund | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Cider | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| U.S. Apple Association | \$7,651.00 | \$7,651.00 | \$6,884.00 |
| N.E. Tree Fruit Research Committee | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Summer Meeting | \$1,000.00 | \$1,559.50 | \$1,400.00 |
| Ag Day at the Statehouse | \$0.00 | \$150.00 | \$150.00 |
| Web page | \$500.00 | \$350.00 | \$350.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$1,000.00 | \$226.09 | \$1,200.00 |
| Total | \$(15,651.00) | \$(16,048.52) | \$(15,234.00) |
| Ending Balance | \$37,787.93 | \$33,436.91 | \$32,902.91 |

New Business

Autio presented a new list of life and courtesy members, including the additional of Robert Smiley as a life member and Kathleen Carroll as a courtesy member. The proposal was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*