

Minutes
Annual Business Meeting
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference, Manchester, NH
December 16, 2009

The Annual Business Meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM by President André Tougas. President Tougas offered words of welcome to the membership. Twenty-five individuals were present.

Secretary's Report

One hundred and twenty-one individuals paid membership dues for 2009. An additional 27 had previously committed to the 10-year-membership/matching program with the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture and the Commonwealth. Their active membership will continue through 2015. Below are the membership figures for 2000-2009.

Category	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Active members	43	42	49	44	43	39	51	40	41	90
Associate members	60	65	73	78	79	83	69	35	24	58
Exhibitor members	57	60	59	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
Courtesy members	14	16	11	16	16	15	16	16	16	16
Life members	7	6	4	7	7	7	8	8	7	6
Total	181	189	196	195	145	144	145	99	88	170

The 2009 Annual Business Meeting was on January 15, 2009 at the UMass Cold Spring Orchard in Belchertown, and the Annual Summer Meeting was on July 15 at Tougas Family Farm in Northborough, with more than 100 people in attendance. The Board of Directors met on February 20 and November 13, 2009. The Secretary's Report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Minutes of the previous (January 15, 2009) Annual Business Meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$53,174.22. Receipts totaled \$76,844.46, and disbursements totaled \$104,220.08. The balance on December 31, 2009 was \$25,798.60. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$285,774.17. A total of \$8.46 in receipts and \$4,400.00 expenses occurred in 2009. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on December 31, 2009 was \$330,451.02. In 2009, the Horticultural Research Fund gained 15.2% in value (including income and expenses). The overall investment increase was 16.8%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed. Details follow on the next page.

Other Business

Cleve Willis discussed the Prokopy Memorial Endowment which will support a position at the University of Massachusetts in tree-fruit entomology. Several individuals are members of the memorial committee.

Legislative (Dowse), Harvest Labor (Davis), Marketing (Nicewicz), and Research & Grants (Tougas) Committees and the Trustees of the UMass Horticultural Research Center (Davis) reported.

GENERAL FUND

Balance -- Bank of America + PayPal, 12/31/08		\$53,174.22
Receipts		
Active member dues -- 2009	\$12,352.05	
Associate member dues -- 2009	\$1,371.40	
Interest	\$62.29	
Summer Meeting	\$6,076.75	
Winter Meeting -- 2009	\$2,082.51	
EPA Grant -- Clements	\$27,409.02	
AIC Grant -- Clements	\$10,786.20	
Horticultural Research Fund donations	\$364.01	
UMass Programs, Publications, general donations	\$15,636.45	
UM Cold Spring Orchard R & E Center donations	\$388.28	
IPM donations	\$315.50	\$76,844.46
Disbursements		
Administration	\$4,030.48	
Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,800.00	
Summer meeting	\$2,967.04	
Affiliations	\$60.00	
US Apple Association	\$6,118.00	
Specialty Crops Grant -- Clements	\$250.00	
AIC Grant -- Clements	\$41,562.73	
EPA Grant -- Clements	\$26,685.28	
Winter Meeting -- 2009	\$1,957.85	
Miscellaneous	\$1,085.67	
Transfer to MFGA Hort. Res. Fund	\$364.01	
UMass Programs, Publications, general donations	\$15,635.74	
UM Cold Spring Orchard R & E Center donations	\$388.28	
IPM Donations	\$315.00	-\$104,220.08
Balance -- Bank of America & PayPal, 12/7/09		\$25,798.60

HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH FUND

Balance -- Bank of America, 12/31/08		\$12,465.69
Receipts		
Interest	\$8.46	\$8.46
Disbursements		
Greene Grants	\$2,400.00	
Autio Grants	\$2,000.00	-\$4,400.00
Balance -- Bank of America, 12/31/09		\$8,074.15

Balance -- Merrill Lynch, 12/31/08		\$274,308.48
Cash -- 12/31/09		\$6,616.83
Investments (value as of 12/31/09)		
Altria Group	\$3,926.00	
AMEX Technology Select SPDR Fund	\$5,732.50	
Chesapeake Energy	\$77,640.00	
Consolidated Edison	\$22,715.00	
Consumer Discretionary SPDR Fund	\$1,488.50	
Exxon Mobil Corporation	\$68,190.00	
General Electric	\$15,130.00	

Health Care Select Fund	\$6,990.75	
Ishares Cohen & Steers Realty Majors Index Fund	\$2,626.00	
Ishares DJ US Telecommunication Sector Index Fund	\$2,002.00	
Ishares FTSE Xinhua HK China 25 Index Fund	\$2,113.00	
Ishares MSCI Brazil Free Index Fund	\$3,357.45	
Ishares MSCI EAFE Index Fund	\$6,633.60	
Ishares MSCI EAFE Small Cap Fund	\$3,581.00	
Ishares MSCI Emerging Markets Index Fund	\$2,075.00	
Ishares MSCI Japan Index Fund	\$1,461.00	
Ishares MSCI South Africa Index Fund	\$1,119.40	
Kraft Foods	\$3,750.84	
Materials Select Sector SPDR Fund	\$6,598.00	
Philip Morris	\$9,638.00	
Rydex ETF TR Index Fund	\$7,906.00	
Sector SPDR Consumers STPL Fund	\$3,970.50	
Sector SPDR Financial Fund	\$3,600.00	
Sector SPDR Industrial Fund	\$8,337.00	
Sector SPDR Utilities Fund	\$2,326.50	
Southern Company	\$16,660.00	
Constellation Energy Corporate Bond	\$5,425.15	
Fortune Brands, Inc. Corporate Bond	\$5,156.95	
Marriott International Corporate Bond	\$5,027.30	
Viacom Inc. Corporate Bond	\$5,239.80	
Xerox Corporation Corporate Bond	\$5,342.80	\$315,760.04
Balance -- Merrill Lynch, 12/31/09		\$322,376.87
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Total Balance -- Horticultural Research Fund/Reserve Fund		\$330,451.02
Overall change in value in 2009		15.2%
Overall change not related to grant expenditures and deposits		16.8%
Approved expenditures for operation of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard		\$26,832.18
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UMass Foundation--MFGA Horticultural Research Fund, 6/30/09		\$732,807.93
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Total of all endowment moneys (MFGA Hort. Res. Fund + UMass):		\$1,063,258.95
Overall change in value in 2009		8.1%

Nominations Committee Report and Elections

On behalf of the Nominations Committee, Autio presented a slate of candidates for officers and directors, including Mark Parlee for President, Andrew Martin, Al Rose, and Glenn Cook for Vice Presidents, Wes Autio for Secretary and Treasurer, Ken Nicewicz for Auditor, and Bill Broderick, Bob Davis, Alex Dowse, Carl Hills, and Jonathan Morse for Directors. No additional nominations were received from the floor. Nominated candidates for president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and auditor were elected. Bill Broderick, Bob Davis, Alex Dowse, and Jonathan Morse were elected as directors for 3 years.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Wesley R. Autio, *Secreatry/Treasurer*