

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
February 17, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Parlee at 2:00 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Suzanne Cashman, Frank Carlson, David Chandler, Tom Clark, Jon Clements, Glenn Cook, Joanne Dinardo, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Laurie Hamill, Ken Nicewicz, Mark Parlee, Al Rose, Tim Smith, Andre Tougas, Mo Tougas, and Fan Watkinson. Parlee gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the November 13, 2009 directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$25,798.60. Receipts to date totaled \$9,991.45, and disbursements totaled \$1,588.54. The balance on February 17, 2010 was \$34,201.51. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$330,451.02. A total of \$964.70 in receipts and \$0.00 in disbursements have occurred to date. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on February 17, 2010 was \$330,451.02. So far in 2010, the Horticultural Research Fund has lost 1.7% in value (including income and expenses). The overall investment loss was 2.0%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Legislative, UMass Fruit Advisory, Harvest Labor, Research and Grants, and Marketing Committees and the Trustees of the Horticultural Research Fund gave brief reports.

Kip Graham gave a brief update from USDA FSA. Fan Watkinson and Laurie Hamill reported on the proposed Boston Local Food Festival. Concern was expressed about the potential for it drawing customers away from farms at an important time of year. Suzanne Cashman asked for advice regarding the potential for a free medical clinic for migrant farm workers. It was suggested that non-H2A workers would likely benefit, but H2A workers would not benefit from such a program.

Old Business

Autio presented a list of courtesy members for review. It included W. Autio, J. Clements, K. Carroll, W. Coli, D. Cooley, N. Garrabrants, S. Goodwin, K. Graham, D. Greene, S. Herbert, J. Krupa, S. Schloemann, J. Sincuk, S. Soares, S. Weis, and C. Willis. The list was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

New Business

Progress toward the potential sale of the development rights of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard was discussed. A necessary step in the process is a business/land appraisal. George Malia of First Pioneer Farm Credit has been contacted.

Motion: *That the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association contribute up to \$2,500 toward the cost of an appraisal of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard Research & Education Center property.* The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The date of the Annual Summer Meeting was set for July 15, 2010 at the UMass Cold Spring Orchard Research & Education Center.

Motion: *That the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association donate \$100 to an appropriate organization in memory of Susan Smiley.* The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2010 Budget

Autio presented a budget for 2010 (see below). It was moved, seconded, and passed without change.

Category	Budget
Beginning balance	\$20,994.53
Receipts	
Interest	\$100.00
Membership	\$13,000.00
Winter meetings	\$8,000.00
Summer Meeting	\$4,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00
Total	\$25,200.00
Disbursements	
Administration	\$4,000.00
Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,800.00
Affiliation	\$600.00
U.S. Apple Association	\$6,068.00
Summer Meeting	\$2,500.00
Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00
Web page	\$450.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00
Total	\$17,068.00
Ending Balance	\$29,126.53

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*