

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminister, Massachusetts
November 6, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President DiNardo at 1:05 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, Ben Clark, Clem Clay, Joanne DiNardo, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Andrew Martin, Chelcie Martin, Jaime Piñero, Al Rose, Sonia Schloemann, Tim Smith, and André Tougas. DiNardo gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the April 12, 2019, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. Autio presented current membership statistics. On November 6, the association had 83 active, 49 associate, 15 courtesy, and 3 life members.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$86,318.05. Receipts as of November 6 totaled \$24,534.61, and disbursements totaled \$28,569.53. The balance on November 6 was \$82,283.13. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$217,846.27. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on November 6 was \$261,385.29, for a 2019 change of +20.2%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Reports

UMass Fruit Advisory Committee (Carlson), Trustees of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard (Carlson), Harvest Labor Committee (Carlson), and Legislative Committee (Dowse) reported briefly. Kip Graham gave a brief report on FSA activities and programs. Sonia Schloemann and Clem Clay spoke briefly on the UMass Fruit Program and UMass Extension Agriculture and Commercial Horticulture Program. Motion: MFGA supports the University of Massachusetts in maintaining the Soil & Plant Nutrient Testing Laboratory. The motion was moved, seconded, and passed.

New Business

Autio presented a draft ballot for the annual meeting. After a brief discussion the following names were placed on the ballot for 2020 officers and directors: President – Ben Clark; Vice Presidents – Chris Smith, Mark Tuttle, and Joel O'Toole; Secretary and Treasurer – Wes Autio; Auditor – Ken Nicewicz; and Directors (selecting 4) – Lynn Lundberg, Chelcie Martin, Peter Mitchell, Mark Parlee, Elly Vaughan, and Glenn Cook.

The spring directors' meeting was set for March 11, 2020 (note that this date was later changed to March 18).

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*