

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
February 13, 2003

The meeting was called to order by President Smith at 2:00 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Rick Bartlett, Gerry Beirne, Frank Carlson, Tom Clark, Jon Clements, Bob Davis, Alex Dowse, Bill Fitzgerald, Duane Greene, Mario Lanni, Tony Lincoln, Ken Nicewicz, Bob Smiley, Tim Smith, Mo Tougas, and Steve Ware. Smith gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Autio presented the minutes of the November 20, 2002 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 \$73,816.82. Receipts to date totaled \$29,954.04, and disbursements totaled \$24,948.38. The balance on February 13, 2003 was \$78,822.48. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$360,625.01. A total of \$211.10 in receipts and \$2,006.00 in expenses have occurred to date. The balance on February 13, 2003 was \$347,297.42. So far in 2003, the Horticultural Research Fund has lost 3.2% of its value. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed.

Committee Reports

Trustees of the Horticultural Research Fund, Annual Meeting Facilities, Legislative, Cider, UMass Fruit Advisory, Harvest Labor, and Marketing committees reported. Much discussion ensued.

Old Business

Clements updated the group on the progress of the Specialty Crops Grant for marketing. Significant moneys remain to be expended. The consensus was to continue the advertising cost-share program in 2003.

Smiley reported that the 2003/04 New England Fruit Meetings will be held in conjunction with the New England Vegetable and Berry Convention in Manchester, NH on December 17, 2003. A Stone Fruit School will be held on December 16, and a Pumpkin School will occur on December 18.

New Business

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Autio presented the following budget for 2003.

General Fund Budget -- 2003

	Budget 2002	Actual 2002	Budget 2003
Beginning balance	\$14,354.52	\$14,354.52	\$17,636.01
Receipts			
Interest	\$500.00	\$313.15	\$300.00
Membership	\$11,000.00	\$12,875.00	\$12,000.00
Fruit Meetings (net income)	\$15,300.00	\$15,226.49	\$11,725.00
Apple Market Report	\$350.00	\$308.50	\$350.00
Cider	\$500.00	\$390.00	\$500.00
Summer Meeting	\$400.00	\$640.00	\$0.00
Total	\$28,050.00	\$29,753.14	\$24,875.00
Disbursements			
Administration	\$2,600.00	\$2,044.39	\$2,600.00
Proceedings	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
Affiliation	\$400.00	\$450.00	\$450.00
Apple Market Report	\$350.00	\$308.50	\$350.00
Horticultural Research Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00
Cider	\$3,500.00	\$3,592.76	\$500.00
U.S. Apple Association	\$8,092.00	\$8,092.00	\$8,204.00
N.E. Tree Fruit Research Committee	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
Summer Meeting	\$400.00	\$1,134.00	\$0.00
Web page	\$1,640.00	\$500.00	\$1,140.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	\$250.00	\$1,000.00
Total	\$(30,082.00)	\$(26,471.65)	\$(21,344.00)
Ending Balance	\$12,322.52	\$17,636.01	\$21,167.01

The budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Autio provided a list of Life and Courtesy Members. Discussion ensued, and the following list of Life Members was approved: John V. Blanchard, William J. Bramlage, William J. Lord, Dominic A. Marini, Jesse L. Rice, Anthony W. Rossi, and G. Everett Wilder. The following list of Courtesy Members was approved: Wesley R. Autio, Jon M. Clements, William M. Coli, Daniel R. Cooley, Stephen J. Demski, Douglas P. Gillespie, Steven D. Goodwin, Kip Graham, Duane W. Greene, James S. Krupa, Ronald J. Prokopy, Sonia G. Schloemann, Joseph E. Sincuk, Petrus L. Veneman, Sarah A. Weis, and Cleve E. Willis.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*