

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
November 20, 2002

The meeting was called to order by President Smith at 2:00 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Rick Bartlett, Gerry Beirne, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, David Chandler, Tom Clark, Jon Clements, Alex Dowse, Bill Fitzgerald, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Gordon Kimball, Tony Lincoln, Ken Nicewicz, Jamie O'Brien, Bob Smiley, Tim Smith, Jesse Stratton, Mo Tougas, and Steve Ware. Smith gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Autio presented the minutes of the March 20, 2002 Directors' Meeting. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes with modification. Autio reported that the Executive Committee met on June 6 and July 10. Trustees of the Horticultural Research Fund met on April 18. The annual summer meeting was held on July 10 at the University of Massachusetts Cold Spring Orchard Research & Education Center. Approximately 100 individuals were in attendance. One hundred and ninety-six individuals were members of the Association in 2002, an increase of seven from 2001.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$33,485.81. Receipts totaled \$124,505.45, and disbursements totaled \$85,575.30. The balance on November 20, 2002 was \$72,415.96. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$413,199.98. A total of \$5,665.00 was moved into the Horticultural Research Fund from the General Fund, \$9,625.00 were received as general donations, \$3,485.00 were received as memorial gifts, and \$102.81 were received as interest. In total \$16,613.08 were expended on grants. The balance on November 20, 2002 was \$352,886.18. So far in 2002, the Horticultural Research Fund has lost 14.6% of its value. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed.

Committee Reports

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

Old Business

Lincoln and Dowse presented proposed bylaw changes to be moved at the Annual Business Meeting.

Motion: Present proposal to the membership in writing and present the proposal at the Annual Business Meeting for a vote in January. The motion was seconded and passed with one opposed.

Clements updated the directors on the Marketing Specialty Crops Grant, and Smith discussed Sonia Schloemann's Agro-environmental Technologies Grant with *Ribes*.

Motion: Continue support of Schloemann's project. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

New Business

Smith proposed that the Summer Meeting in 2003, which is scheduled to be at his farm, be held in conjunction with New England Fruit Consultants. The proposal was approved by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*