

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
March 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Parlee at 1:15 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Ben Clark, Tom Clark, David Chandler, Jon Clements, Joanne Dinardo, Alex Dowse, Emily French, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Jeff Hatton, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Andrew Martin, Ken Nicewicz, James O'Brien, Mark Parlee, Paul Russell, Tom Smiarowski, Tim Smith, Andre Tougas, Mo Tougas, and Mark Tuttle. Parlee gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the December 1, 2010 directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$40,558.02. Receipts to date totaled \$360.19, and disbursements totaled \$3,083.26. The balance on March 15 was \$37,834.95. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$295,502.13. A total of \$0.70 in receipts had occurred to date. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on March 15 was \$303,843.28. So far in 2011, the Horticultural Research Fund has gained 2.8% in value. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Reports

Emily French provided a brief report of the Farm-to-School Project.

Legislative and Marketing Committees and the Trustees of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard gave brief reports.

Autio presented a proposed budget for 2011. The budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. Details follow.

Mo Tougas announced that the 2013 Annual Meeting of the International Fruit Tree Association will be held in Boston.

Motion: *The Board of the Directors of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association move to disburse \$500 to the International Fruit Tree Association.* The motion was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Autio updated the directors on the progress of the MFGA PYO Survey. Detailed results will be provided at upcoming twilight meetings.

Kip Graham provided an update from FSA.

General Fund Budget -- 2011

	Budget 2009	Actual 2009	Budget 2010	Actual 2010	Budget 2011
Beginning balance	\$21,980.86	\$21,980.86	\$24,035.95	\$24,035.95	\$35,528.62
Receipts					
Interest	\$300.00	\$62.29	\$100.00	\$19.81	\$20.00
Membership	\$12,000.00	\$13,723.45	\$13,000.00	\$12,112.18	\$13,000.00
Winter meetings	\$3,000.00	\$2,082.51	\$8,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00
Summer Meeting	\$4,000.00	\$6,076.75	\$4,000.00	\$2,625.34	\$4,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$0.71	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total	\$19,800.00	\$21,945.71	\$25,200.00	\$27,757.33	\$17,120.00
Disbursements					
Administration	\$3,600.00	\$4,030.48	\$4,000.00	\$4,386.66	\$4,400.00
Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
Winter meetings	\$2,000.00	\$1,957.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Affiliation	\$500.00	\$60.00	\$600.00	\$560.00	\$650.00
U.S. Apple Association	\$6,118.00	\$6,118.00	\$6,068.00	\$6,068.00	\$6,118.00
Summer Meeting	\$2,500.00	\$2,967.04	\$2,500.00	\$1,675.00	\$2,500.00
Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Web page	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$425.00	\$550.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$1,957.25	\$500.00	\$350.00	\$500.00
Total	\$18,618.00	\$19,890.62	\$17,068.00	\$16,264.66	\$17,668.00
Ending Balance	\$23,162.86	\$24,035.95	\$32,167.95	\$35,528.62	\$34,980.62
			Specialty Crops Grant	\$788.91	
			EPA Sprayer Grant	\$900.00	
			UMass Programs	\$3,000.00	
			Hort. Res. Fund Donation	\$340.49	
			General Fund Balance	\$40,558.02	

Old Business

The potential participation of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association in the UMass Prokopy Endowment was discussed at length.

Motion: *The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association will ask members to make an annual contribution over a 5-year period to the endowment, with the hopes of matching funds provided by other organizations.* The motion was moved and seconded, but it failed obtain sufficient votes for passage.

New Business

Tom Smiarowski and Paul Russell presented a proposal to develop a new proposal in

conjunction with UMass to the Risk Management Agency.

Motion: *The Board of the Directors of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association support the proposed effort to develop a proposal for RMA.* The motion was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Jeff Hatton presented the farm recipe booklet program underway in Rhode Island and suggested the possibility of expanding the program to Massachusetts.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*