

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
November 28, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Martin at 1:15 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, Tom Clark, Jon Clements, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Andrew Martin, Ken Nicewicz, Al Rose, Chris Smith, Andre Tougas, and Mo Tougas. Martin gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the February 10 directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$34,038.93. Receipts to date totaled \$52,868.71, and disbursements totaled \$33,505.68. The balance on November 28 was \$53,401.96. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$297,573.28. A total of \$321.74 in receipts has occurred to date, and \$1,266.84 has been expended. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on November 28 was \$325,046.21. So far in 2012, the Horticultural Research Fund has gained 9.6% in value. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Reports

Legislative (Dowse), Harvest Labor (Carlson), Marketing (Nicewicz), UMass Fruit Advisory (Carlson) Committees and the Trustees of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard (Clark) gave brief reports.

Tom Smiaroski and Paul Russell introduced the directors to the Risk Management program that UMass Extension received. Tom and Paul will work closely with growers regarding risk management. Kip Graham provided an update from FSA.

Old Business

Nicewicz lead a discussion of progress on the Prokopy Endowment. It was decided to pursue corporate sponsors at the rate of \$2,000 per year for 5 years. Several companies were offered as possible donors. Directors will send any suggestions to Ken Nicewicz.

New Business

Tougas and Clements discussed the upcoming International Fruit Tree Association Annual Meeting, February 23 through March 1 in Boston.

Motion: *MFGA will be a sponsor for IFTA's Annual Meeting at the level of \$2,500 and a contributor to the Rootstock Research Fund at the level of \$1,000.* The motion was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Nominations were made for the slate of officers and directors. All incumbent officers and directors were nominated. Additionally, Joshua Fitzgerald and Dana Clark were nominated for the position of Director.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*