

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminister, Massachusetts
March 21, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Martin at 1:05 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Zoraia Barros, Bill Broderick, David Chandler, Dana Clark, Jon Clements, Glenn Cook, Joann Dinardo, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Frank Mangan, Andrew Martin, Ken Nicewicz, Mark Parlee, Al Rose, Chris Smith, Andre Tougas, Mo Tougas, and Mark Tuttle. Martin gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the November 28, 2012, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$48,555.35. Receipts as of March 21 totaled \$9,483.18, and disbursements totaled \$5,544.05. The balance on March 21 was \$52,494.48. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$328,653.29. A total of \$0.08 in receipts occurred by March 21, and nothing has been expended. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on March 21 was \$350,458.96. As of March 21, the Horticultural Research Fund gained 6.6% in value for 2013. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

2013 Budget

Autio presented a 2013 budget for the consideration of the Board:

	Budget 2012	Actual 2012	Budget 2013
Beginning balance	\$32,650.02	\$32,650.02	\$43,274.98
Receipts			
Interest	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership	\$11,000.00	\$10,472.06	\$10,500.00
Winter meetings	\$13,000.00	\$19,480.00	\$797.56
Summer Meeting	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$2.54	\$100.00
Total	\$27,105.00	\$29,954.60	\$11,397.56
Disbursements			
Administration	\$4,100.00	\$4,089.47	\$4,100.00
Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
Winter meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Affiliation	\$600.00	\$560.00	\$600.00
U.S. Apple Association	\$6,401.00	\$6,401.00	\$6,500.00
Summer Meeting	\$2,500.00	\$197.15	\$0.00
Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Web page	\$1,550.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$5,132.02	\$1,500.00
Total	\$18,601.00	\$19,329.64	\$17,150.00
Ending Balance	\$41,154.02	\$43,274.98	\$37,522.54

The budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Reports

Legislative (Dowse), Harvest Labor (Tougas), Marketing (Nicewicz), the NEVFC Program (Greene), and FSA (Graham) gave brief reports.

Old Business

Nicewicz lead a discussion of progress on the Prokopy Endowment. Several corporate sponsors have been contacted and asked to give at the rate of \$2,000 per year for 5 years.

New Business

The Directors were asked to elect a representative to the New England Apple Council. Joel O'Toole was nominated and elected unanimously.

Frank Mangan and Zoraia Barros from UMass presented a brief report on efforts to develop an export program to Mexico via ship.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential of submitting one or more pre-proposals to the USDA Specialty Crops Block Grant Program administered through the Mass. Department of Agricultural Resources. Clements presented an idea regarding the development of record-keeping software. It was moved to support the proposal. The motion was seconded and passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*