

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
March 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Rose at 1:10 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, David Chandler, Ben Clark, Glenn Cook, Bob Davis, Joann Dinardo, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Andrew Martin, Ken Nicewicz, Joel O'Toole, Mark Parlee, Al Rose, Andre Tougas, Mo Tougas, and Mark Tuttle. Rose gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the December 6, 2013, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. Autio also reported that the Association has 61 active, 42 associate, 13 courtesy, and 4 life members for a total of 120 members for 2014.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$49,259.40. Receipts as of March 14 totaled \$12,792.80, and disbursements totaled \$1,969.45. The balance on March 14 was \$60,082.75. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$392,902.21. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on March 14 was \$391,570.81, for a 2014 change of -0.3%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. The following 2014 budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

		Budget 2014
Receipts		
	Membership	\$12,000.00
	Winter meetings	\$10,000.00
	Summer Meeting	\$500.00
	Miscellaneous	\$100.00
	Total	\$22,600.00
Disbursements		
	Administration	\$4,500.00
	Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,800.00
	Affiliation	\$100.00
	U.S. Apple Association	\$6,268.00
	Summer Meeting	\$0.00
	Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00
	Web page	\$600.00
	Miscellaneous	\$500.00
	Total	\$14,918.00

Reports

Legislative (Dowse), Harvest Labor (O'Toole), Marketing (Nicewicz), the Trustees of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard (Davis), Prokopy Endowment (Nicewicz), and FSA (Graham) gave brief reports.

New Business

Motion: *Ask the NEVFC Management Committee to subsidize the Tree Fruit Management Guide with \$5,000 from the proceeds from the Conference – seconded and passed unanimously.*

Motion: *Develop a statement regarding GMO's for the tree fruit industry* – seconded and passed unanimously. Mo Tougas will work with Al Rose to develop and distribute a draft to the Directors.

Motion *Prokopy Endowment Committee will pursue additional avenues of funding the endowment* – seconded and passed unanimously. The potential to utilize the Horticultural Research Fund to match new grower contributions is one possible avenue of additional funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*