

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.**  
*Old Mill Restaurant, Westminister, Massachusetts*  
*March 16, 2016*

The meeting was called to order by President Cook at 1:00 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Ben Clark, Jon Clements, Glenn Cook, Joann Dinardo, Bob Davis, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Andrew Martin, Shawn McIntire, Peter Mitchell, Ken Nicewicz, Joel O'Toole, Mark Parlee, Al Rose, Chris Smith, and André Tougas. Cook gave words of welcome.

**Secretary's Report**

Minutes of the December 9, 2015, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$63,585.10. Receipts as of March 15 totaled \$1,710.00, and disbursements totaled \$3,934.28. The balance on March 15 was \$61,360.82. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$322,319.45. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on March 15 was \$324,211.69, for a 2016 change of 0.6%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

**2016 Budget**

Autio presented the proposed 2016 budget. It was amended to increase the Secretary/Treasurer Salary from \$2,800 to \$3,500. Details appear below. The budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

	Budget 2015	Actual 2015	Budget 2016
<b>Beginning balance</b>	\$51,494.66	\$51,494.66	\$56,732.31
<b>Receipts</b>			
Membership	\$11,000.00	\$14,855.49	\$12,000.00
Winter meetings	\$1,861.48	\$1,861.48	\$10,000.00
Summer Meeting	\$2,500.00	\$2,090.79	\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$4,000.00	\$500.00
Total	\$15,861.48	\$22,807.76	\$24,500.00
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Administration	\$4,100.00	\$4,378.65	\$4,400.00
Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$3,500.00
Winter meetings	\$1,115.46	\$1,115.46	\$0.00
Affiliation	\$600.00	\$60.00	\$600.00
U.S. Apple Association	\$6,352.00	\$6,352.00	\$6,345.00
Summer Meeting	\$2,000.00	\$1,877.00	\$1,800.00
Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Web page	\$600.00	\$375.00	\$375.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$612.00	\$500.00
Total	\$18,217.46	\$17,570.11	\$17,670.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	\$49,138.68	\$56,732.31	\$63,562.31

Note that the EPA Spray grant carried a remainder of \$4,352.99 into 2016, and the UMass Programs carried \$2,499.80 into 2016.

**Reports**

Legislative Committee (Dowse), Harvest Labor Committee (O'Toole), Marketing Committee (Nicewicz), and FSA (Graham) gave brief reports.

*Motion:* The president will write a letter of support of the pollinator protection bill. Seconded and passed unanimously.

**New Business**

Peter Mitchell discussed the current NY Farm Cidery License.

*Motion:* MFGA will support progress toward a Massachusetts Farm Cidery License. Seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by  
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*