

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
April 4, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President DiNardo at 1:05 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, David Chandler, Ben Clark, Tom Clark, Jon Clements, Glenn Cook, Ed Davidian, Joanne DiNardo, Alex Dowse, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Andrew Martin, Chelcie Martin, Ken Nicewicz, Jamie O'Brien, Joel O'Toole, Mark Parlee, Jaime Piñero, Al Rose, Sonia Schloemann, Chris Smith, André Tougas, and Mo Tougas. DiNardo gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the November 10, 2017, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$74,100.78. Receipts as of April 4 totaled \$1,927.70, and disbursements totaled \$4,779.05. The balance on April 4 was \$71,249.43. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$295,344.08. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on April 4 was \$280,343.98, for a 2018 change of -5.1%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Reports

Legislative Committee (Dowse), UMass Fruit Advisory Committee (Carlson), Harvest Labor (O'Toole), Marketing Committee (Nicewicz), and Trustees of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard (Chandler) reported briefly. Kip Graham gave a brief report on FSA.

New Business

Motion: President DiNardo, on behalf of MFGA, will draft a letter in opposition to regulation of neonicotinoids outside of the normal process. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. We will ask Brad Mitchell for guidance as to where the letter should go and when it should be submitted.

A new UMass Advisory Committee was appointed: Frank Carlson, Ben Clark, Joanne DiNardo, Chelcie Martin, and André Tougas.

Courtesy members were approved: Wesley Autio, Jon Clements, Kathy Carroll, Bill Coli, Dan Cooley, Kip Graham, Duane Greene, Kristen Hanley, Jim Krupa, John Lebeaux, Shawn McIntire, Jaime Piñero, Sonia Schloemann, and Tricia Serio.

Jeremy Reiner (Channel 7) was nominated for the Prokopy Award. The nomination was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Annual Summer Meeting date was chosen as July 10, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*