

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.

Via ZOOM.
March 11, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Clark at 12:05 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, Ben Clark, Clem Clay, Jon Clements, Glenn Cook, Joanne DiNardo, Alex Dowse, Liz Garofalo, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Chelcie Martin, Peter Mitchell, Ken Nicewicz, Jamie O'Brien, Mark Parlee, Al Rose, André Tougas, and Elly Vaughan. Clark gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the November 30, 2021, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. Autio presented current membership statistics. On March 11, the association had 59 active, 50 associate, 14 courtesy, and 4 life members. Two membership renewal notices have been sent, and the third will be sent within the next few weeks.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$85,791.19. Receipts as of March 11 totaled \$21,546.12, and disbursements totaled \$4,822.28, leaving a balance of \$102,515.03. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$293,085.13. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on March 10 was \$272,783.95, for a change of -6.9% so far this year. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Budget

Autio presented a proposed budget for 2022 (see below). The proposed budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

		Budget 2021	Actual 2021	Budget 2022
Beginning balance		\$83,218.49	\$83,218.49	\$85,083.80
Receipts	Membership	\$15,000.00	\$17,576.55	\$15,000.00
	Winter meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,588.59
	Summer Meeting	\$3,000.00	\$2,261.83	\$3,000.00
	Miscellaneous	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
	Total	\$20,500.00	\$19,838.38	\$29,088.59
Disbursements	Administration	\$4,500.00	\$3,868.77	\$4,500.00
	Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$4,000.00
	Affiliation	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
	U.S. Apple Association	\$6,754.00	\$6,754.00	\$6,754.00
	Summer Meeting	\$3,000.00	\$2,380.30	\$3,000.00
	Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
	Web page	\$375.00	\$0.00	\$375.00
	Miscellaneous	\$3,000.00	\$1,400.00	\$3,000.00
	Total	\$21,349.00	\$17,973.07	\$21,849.00
Ending Balance		\$82,369.49	\$85,083.80	\$92,323.39
	EPA Sprayer/RimPro		\$735.85	
	UMass Programs		-\$28.46	
	General Fund Balance		\$85,791.19	

Reports

Legislative (Dowse), Harvest Labor Committee (Broderick), UMass Fruit Advisory (Carlson), Marketing (Nicewicz), and the Trustees of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard (Carlson) reported briefly. Clem Clay discussed the current state of hiring in the Fruit Program and Extension.

New Business

Autio presented a proposed list of courtesy members (Autio, Clay, Clements, Cooley, Garofalo, Goodwin, Graham, Hanley, Jellison, Krupa, Lebeaux, McIntire, Piñero, Serio, and Xing) and a list of life members (Davis, Greene, Marini, and Schloeman). It was proposed to move Autio to the life member category and add Brad Mitchell to the list of courtesy members. The amended proposal was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

The nature and the date of the summer meeting were discussed. Further discussion will occur to determine the best time to engage legislators and UMass administrators. The location will be the UMass Cold Spring Orchard Research & Education Center.

Liz Garofalo discussed the in-person New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference scheduled for December.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*