

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
November 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Clark at 1:06 PM. Individuals present were Ben Clark, Chelcie Martin, Elly Vaughan, Wes Autio, Ken Nicewicz, Joanne DiNardo, Glenn Cook, Susan Conant, Mark Parlee, Andre Tougas, Bill Broderick, Alex Dowse, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Jon Clements, and Jaime Piñero. Clark gave words of welcome.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the March 11, 2022, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. Autio presented current membership statistics. On November 10, the association had 80 active, 80 associate, 15 courtesy, and 5 life members.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$85,791.19. Receipts as of November 10 totaled \$32,341.01, and disbursements totaled \$19,511.27, leaving a balance of \$98,620.93. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$293,085.13. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on November 10 was \$260,772.31, for a change of -11.0%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Reports

UMass Fruit Advisory (Martin), Harvest Labor Committee (Broderick), Marketing (Nicewicz), Legislative Committee (Dowse), and the Trustees of the UMass Cold Spring Orchard (Autio) reported briefly.

New Business

The date of the 2023 Annual Business Meeting was noted. It will occur on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at the New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference in Manchester, NH. There will, however, be the opportunity to join the meeting remotely via Zoom as well.

A slate of candidates for election at the Business Meeting was discussed. The following will be listed on the ballot: Ben Clark (president), Chelcie Martin (1st vice president), Elly Vaughan (2nd vice president), Peter Mitchell (3rd vice president), Wes Autio (secretary), Wes Autio (treasurer), and Ken Nicewicz (auditor). Courtney Basil, Glenn Cook, Susan Conant, Joshua Fitzgerald, and Mark Parlee were proposed as directors for 3-year terms. The ballot was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*