

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

*Old Mill Restaurant*  
*Westminster, MA*  
*March 9, 2023*

The meeting was called to order by President Clark at 1:15 PM. Individuals present were Ben Clark, Chelcie Martin, Wes Autio, Ken Nicewicz, Joanne DiNardo, Gerry Beirne, Al Rose, Andre Tougas, Bill Broderick Alex Dowse, Pat Kriksceonaitis, Andrew Martin, Courtney Basil, Glenn Cook, Susan Conant, Jon Clements, and Karen Schwalbe. Clark gave words of welcome.

**Secretary's Report**

Minutes of the November 10, 2022, directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously. Autio presented current membership statistics. On March 11, the association had 14 active, 15 associate, 15 courtesy, and 5 life members. Only one membership renewal has been sent.

**Treasurer's Report**

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$97,540.52. Receipts as of March 9 totaled \$3,586.38, and disbursements totaled \$4,979.31, leaving a balance of \$96,147.59. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$263,064.25. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on March 8 was \$271,745.60, for a change of +3.3% so far this year. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

**Budget**

Autio presented a proposed budget for 2023 (see below). The proposed budget was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

		Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Budget 2023
<b>Beginning balance</b>		\$85,083.80	\$85,083.80	\$96,712.70
<b>Receipts</b>	Membership	\$15,000.00	\$17,734.27	\$17,000.00
	Winter meetings	\$8,588.59	\$8,588.59	\$0.00
	Summer Meeting	\$3,000.00	\$3,391.56	\$3,000.00
	Miscellaneous	\$2,500.00	\$2,482.06	\$0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,088.59</b>	<b>\$32,196.48</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>	Administration	\$4,500.00	\$5,174.20	\$5,500.00
	Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
	Affiliation	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00
	U.S. Apple Association	\$6,754.00	\$6,838.00	\$6,900.00
	Summer Meeting	\$3,000.00	\$2,840.63	\$3,000.00
	Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
	Web page	\$375.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	Miscellaneous	\$3,000.00	\$1,144.75	\$3,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,849.00</b>	<b>\$20,567.58</b>	<b>\$23,120.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$92,323.39</b>	<b>\$96,712.70</b>	<b>\$93,592.70</b>
EPA Sprayer/RimPro			\$735.85	
UMass Programs			\$91.97	
<b>General Fund Balance</b>			<b>\$97,540.52</b>	

**Reports**

Legislative (Dowse), Harvest Labor Committee (Broderick), UMass Fruit Advisory (Martin, Clark, Clements), and Marketing (Martin) reported briefly. Karen Schwalbe (executive director, Mass. Farm Bureau) discussed current legislative issues.

**New Business**

Autio presented a proposed list of courtesy members for 2023: Clem Clay, Jon Clements, Daniel Cooley, Kristen Hanley, Jody Jellison, James Krupa, Shawn McIntire, Jaime Piñero, Ashley Randle, Karen Schwalbe, Tricia Serio, Nate Whitaker, and Baoshan Xing. The proposal was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

The 2023 Annual Summer Meeting will be held on July 12 at Honey Pot Hill Orchard, hosted by vice president Chelcie Martin.

Ag Day at the Statehouse will occur in April, and MFGA will participate.

Membership dues were discussed and it was moved to increase active member dues to \$250 per year and associate member dues to \$50 per year. The motion was seconded and passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by  
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*