

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts
December 6, 2000

The meeting was called to order by President Broderick at 2:00 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, John Blanchard, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, David Chandler, Tom Clark, Jon Clements, Charlie Costa, Bob Davis, Alex Dowse, Paul Fisher, Kip Graham, Mario Lani, Ken Nicewicz, Jamie O'Brien, Jesse Rice, Joe Sincuk, Bob Smiley, Tim Smith, Mo Tougas, Bob Tuttle, Steve Ware, and Kim Wiezbicki.

Secretary's Report

Autio presented the minutes of the previous Directors' Meeting. Minutes were moved, seconded, and passed. Autio also presented membership numbers changing from 203, 220, 200, 182, 185, to 181 in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000, respectively. It was moved, seconded, and passed to make Steve Demski and Cleve Willis courtesy members.

Treasurer's Report

Autio presented the Treasurer's Report. The General Fund began 2000 with a balance of \$29,009.43. With \$47,975.16 in receipts and \$48,768.30 in disbursements so far in 2000, the balance on December 6 was \$28,216.29. The Horticultural Research Fund began 2000 with a balance of \$171,230. A total of \$231,631.56 was received in donations and interest and \$7,823.60 was disbursed on projects to leave a balance on December 6 of \$423,925.75. The primary donation was \$212,000 from Mr. Jack Blais. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed. Further, it was moved, seconded, and passed to utilize the same investment approach as in the past, with Frank Southwick, Wes Autio, and Joe Sincuk making investment decisions.

2000 New England Fruit Meetings & Trade Show

Smiley reported that there were 74 booth spaces rented and that consolidation of support industries continues to reduce the number of exhibitors and potential exhibitors. It was moved, seconded, and passed to charge \$20 per copy of the Proceedings of the New England Fruit Meetings to individuals who are not members of any New England state tree-fruit organization.

Old Business

Reports were received by the Directors from the Trustees of the Horticultural Research Fund, the Legislative Committee, the UMass Fruit Advisory Committee, the Harvest Labor Committee, and the Marketing Committee.

New Business

Charlie Costa, Kip Graham, and Paul Fisher provided some details of the upcoming Market Loss Program. They distributed draft outlines and took questions. It was moved, seconded, and passed to provide a courtesy booth at the 2001 New England Fruit Meetings for FSA to provide information on this program.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to expend up to \$1,000 to develop a web site for the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association. Jon Clements will lead this effort. It also was moved, seconded, and passed to request the name of www.massfruitgrowers.org.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*