

Minutes
Annual Business Meeting
Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.
Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, Massachusetts
January 9, 2002

The Annual Business Meeting was called to order at 12:25 AM by President William Broderick. President Broderick offered words of welcome to the membership. Twenty-seven individuals were present.

Secretary's Report

Autio presented the minutes of the 2000 Annual Business Meeting. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes as presented. The Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc. was held on January 10, 2001. Twenty-one members attended. Directors met on April 4 and December 5, the Executive Committee met on June 8, and the Trustees of the Horticultural Research Fund met on March 2 and August 28. The Annual Summer Meeting was on July 19 at the Sunny Crest Orchards in Sterling. Approximately 100 individuals attended the meeting.

One-hundred and eighty-nine individuals were members of the Association in 2001, a slight increase from 2000. Below are the membership figures for 1995-2001.

| Category | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Active members | 52 | 51 | 47 | 45 | 45 | 43 | 42 |
| Associate members | 58 | 73 | 62 | 59 | 56 | 60 | 65 |
| Exhibitor members | 67 | 72 | 69 | 56 | 62 | 57 | 60 |
| Courtesy members | 18 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 16 |
| Life members | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 |
| Total | 203 | 220 | 200 | 182 | 185 | 181 | 189 |

It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Secretary's Report.

Treasurer's Report

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$27,156.69. Receipts totaled \$52,361.44, and disbursements totaled \$46,032.32. The balance on December 31 was \$33,485.81. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$426,015.72. A total of \$2,500 was moved into the Horticultural Research Fund from the General Fund, \$6,778 were received as donations, \$693 were received from UMass Extension Twilight Meetings, \$240.28 were received as interest, and \$1,845 were received in memory of Walter Carlson. In total, \$11,385.65 were expended on grants, \$11,606 were returned to a donor, and \$1 was expended on fees. The balance on December 31 was \$413,199.98. Over the year, the Horticultural Research Fund lost 3.0% of its value.

Detailed General Fund and Horticultural Research Fund information follow.

GENERAL FUND

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------|
| <u>Balance -- Fleet Bank, 12/31/00</u> | | <u>\$27,156.69</u> |
| Receipts | | |
| Active member dues -- 2001 | \$8,400.00 | |
| Associate member dues -- 2001 | \$1,625.00 | |
| Exhibitor member dues -- 2001 | \$425.00 | |
| Exhibitor member dues -- 2002 | \$1,050.00 | |
| Annual meeting -- 2001 | \$6,450.00 | |
| Annual meeting registration fee -- 2001 | \$4,800.00 | |
| Annual meeting -- 2002 | \$20,599.00 | |
| Summer meeting | \$390.00 | |
| Subscriptions | \$55.00 | |
| Cider | \$450.00 | |
| Galaxy Fund interest | \$534.94 | |
| Web page grant | \$1,000.00 | |
| Apple Market Report | \$354.50 | |
| Horticultural Research Fund donations | \$778.00 | |
| Fruit Notes & Healthy Fruit | \$3,920.00 | |
| Horticultural Research Center donations | \$920.00 | |
| IPM donations | \$610.00 | \$52,361.44 |
| Disbursements | | |
| Administration | \$2,654.26 | |
| Secretary/Treasurer salary | \$2,124.04 | |
| Annual meeting -- 2001 | \$18,791.14 | |
| Annual meeting -- 2002 | \$1,467.71 | |
| Proceedings -- 2000 | \$5,374.17 | |
| Cider | \$100.00 | |
| Web page | \$360.00 | |
| Subscription refund | \$35.00 | |
| Affiliations | \$130.00 | |
| US Apple Association | \$5,268.00 | |
| Clement's European trip | \$1,000.00 | |
| Transfer to Horticultural Research Fund | \$3,278.00 | |
| Fruit Notes & Healthy Fruit | \$3,920.00 | |
| Horticultural Research Center Donations | \$920.00 | |
| IPM Donations | \$610.00 | \$(46,032.32) |
| <u>Balance -- Fleet Bank + Galaxy Fund, 12/31/01</u> | | <u>\$33,485.81</u> |

HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH FUND

| | | |
|--|-------------|---------------------|
| Balance -- Fleet Bank, 12/31/00 | | \$11,867.53 |
| Receipts | | |
| Sincuk Fund | \$6,000.00 | |
| Twilight Meetings | \$693.00 | |
| Carlson Memorials | \$1,845.00 | |
| Transfer from Merrill Lynch | \$10,000.00 | |
| Transfer from General Fund | \$3,278.00 | |
| Interest | \$240.28 | \$22,056.28 |
| Disbursements | | |
| Sincuk Fund | \$11,606.00 | |
| Prokopy grants | \$5,446.00 | |
| Sincuk grants | \$3,052.00 | |
| Clements grants | \$2,887.65 | |
| Activity fee | \$1.00 | \$(22,992.65) |
| Balance -- Fleet Bank, 12/31/01 | | \$10,931.16 |
| Balance -- Merrill Lynch, 12/31/00 | | \$414,148.19 |
| Cash -- 12/31/01 | | \$151,422.00 |
| Transfer to Fleet Bank account | | \$(10,000.00) |
| Investments (value as of 12/31/01) | | |
| AMLI Residential Properties | \$5,044.00 | |
| Chesapeake Energy | \$19,830.00 | |
| Exxon Mobil Corporation | \$39,300.00 | |
| General Electric | \$40,080.00 | |
| Philip Morris | \$9,170.00 | |
| Thornburg Mortgage, Inc. | \$19,700.00 | |
| Franklin Universal Trust | \$12,240.00 | |
| Liberty All-Star Equity Fund | \$61,139.17 | |
| Liberty All-Star Growth Fund | \$10,254.23 | |
| Royce Value Trust | \$25,010.52 | |
| Zweig Fund | \$9,078.90 | \$250,846.82 |
| Balance -- Merrill Lynch, 12/31/01 | | \$402,268.82 |
| Total Balance -- Horticultural Research Fund/Reserve Fund | | \$413,199.98 |
| Overall change in value in 2001 | | -3.0% |
| Overall change not related to grant expenditures and deposits | | -2.7% |
| Approved expenditures for operation of the Horticultural Research Center | | \$17,459.43 |

It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report. Davis, after auditing the 2001 data, reported that the Treasurer's Report was accurate as presented. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Auditor's Report.

Committee Reports

Davis reported on Harvest Labor, and Nicewicz reported on Marketing, Publicity, and Promotion. Discussion ensued regarding Federal money being granted by the Mass. Department of Food & Agriculture to support specialty crops. Proposals were discussed, and the following actions were taken:

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed to support a proposal presented by Jon Clements to acquire specialty crop moneys to develop and implement a marketing plan for the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed to support a proposal being developed by Charlie Touchette.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed to support a proposal presented by Ron Prokopy to study plum curculio.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed to give the President the power on behalf of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc. to enter into contracts (including the authority to sign and execute said contracts) with the Massachusetts Department of Food & Agriculture regarding any of the above proposals, if funded.

Chandler read the slate of nominations from the Nominations Committee, including Tim Smith for President, Ken Nicewicz, Steve, Ware, and Gordon Kimball for Vice Presidents, Wes Autio for Secretary and Treasurer, Bob Davis for Auditor, and Rick Bartlett, Gerard Bierne, David Bishop, David Chandler, Mario Lanni, and Robert Tuttle for directors (six needed). No nominations were received from the floor, so it was moved, seconded, and passed to instruct the Secretary to cast a single ballot for the slate of candidates.

Respectfully submitted,
Wesley R. Autio, *Secreatry/Treasurer*