

CHGA Board Meeting

Location: CAES Windsor, 153 Cook Hill Road, Windsor, CT

Date: 02/16/2017

Attendees: Robert Bahre, Alex DeFrancesco, Matt DiSciacca, Alan Fenrow, Joe Fydenkevez, Jim Gidicsin, Jason Hoagland, Phil Hornig, Brandon Hyde, Eddie Kasheta, Jim Lamondia, Bob Marra, Joseph Moon, William Standish, Jeffrey Standish, Doug Weber

4:45pm- Meeting Commenced

- Meeting minutes for Fall Quarterly meeting and Winter Annual Meeting were approved
- Jason Hoagland presents the current Treasurer's report
- Re-cap of annual meeting
 - 68 people in attendance
 - Department of Ag representatives were very impressed
 - Commissioner Reviczky is excited about the future of Hops in CT and the CHGA
- Short Re-cap of first year of CHGA
 - Successful
 - Come a long way since inception
 - Much more awareness, many new members
 - Great place for farmers to come together and share ideas
- Re-cap of Beginners' Hops Seminar
 - All thought that it went very well
 - Feedback- great to see info straight from the source
- Local seminars/ farm visits
 - Dr. Shepherd has agreed to give a tour of Smokedown Farm
 - § Date/time TBD
 - § Likely in late Winter/early Spring
 - Doug Weber will give a tour of Pioneer Hops in late Spring/Early Summer
 - Alex DeFrancesco to host a live demonstration of the hop pelletizer in the Summer
 - Dr. Lamondia will lead the Summer Hops Seminar at the Ag Station
- By-laws

- Patrick will present the final draft of the by-laws to the Board in the next couple of weeks
- The Board will have a conference call to finalize the draft
- CHGA Vice President position
 - Jonathan Higgins has stepped down as Vice President
 - Jeffrey Standish has shown interest in filling this position
 - Alex presented Jeffrey to everyone present and Jeffrey gave an introduction
 - Jason Hoagland voted for Jeffrey Standish to become our new Vice President
 - Matthew DiSciacca seconded the vote
 - Alex Defrancesco agreed as well
 - Jeffrey Standish is officially the new Vice President of the CHGA
- Combined ordering
 - Several members are interested in making combined orders for hop plants/materials
 - Members to see Matt after the meeting so that he can collect details and provide a common communication point
 - Interest in ordering plants in the February/March timeline
- British Hop Association
 - Will run a test program with the CT Brewer's Guild
 - § 13 Different hop pellet varieties will be brought over
 - § Brewer's Guild purchase the pellets and decide which breweries will use them
 - § Will sell beers made with BHA hops to the public for about a year and see which varieties are in demand
 - § All of the hop varieties involved are proprietary to the BHA and come with royalties. Most are dwarf varieties
- Alex's trip to the West Coast
 - Obtained a ton of great information on pelletizing hops, and how they do it in Washington and Oregon
 - On average 25% of the hops that are delivered to a pelletizing facility are too moist
- Future seminars planned
 - Steve Schmidt will likely come to CT in March or April
 - § Presenting on setting up a hopyard

- Spring Quarterly meeting will take place Wednesday, April 26th, time and place TBD
- The Summer quarterly meeting will take place the same day as Dr. Lamondia's Summer hops seminar, Wednesday, July 12th. Times TBD
 - § Board Meeting will take place first, with seminar immediately following
- Hop Pellet facility demo and Farm to Table beer-pairing dinner at DeFrancesco Farms mid-June
 - § Demo and tour will take place in the afternoon, with the dinner to follow at the farm
 - § Ticket price to cover food and expenses TBD
 - § Times TBD
 - § Will help to raise money and awareness for CHGA
- Changing quarterly board meetings from the second Thursday to the second Wednesday of the month in which the meeting will be held
 - All present agreed to this change
- Michigan Hop Growers' Association
 - Holding conference in Detroit March 2-3
 - Good mix of new and veteran hop growers
 - Great agenda
 - Affordable

5:32pm- Meeting adjourned