

CHGA Board Meeting

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

Date: 7/21/2016

Attendees: Patrick Klingman, Alex Defrancesco, Jason Hoagland, and Matthew DiSciaccia

2:15 PM

- Approved minutes from the 3/8/2016 Meeting

- Banking
 - Jason will need a copy of the Articles of Incorporation as well as CHGA's EIN in order to open the account with First Niagara (Soon to be Key Bank)
 - Patrick will get EIN to Jason ASAP

- Alex's Trip to England
 - Met with Allie, Simon, and Peter
 - § Allie and Simon are Board Members of the BHGA. Peter is researcher/ Head propagator for the BHGA
 - § BHGA is made up of about 40 farmers
 - § BHGA farmers raise crops and they have a common distributor
 - Reviewed conversations between CHGA and BHGA thus far
 - § Alex told them that he is estimating about 100 acres of hops being grown in CT over the next five years
 - Yakima Valley just added a good deal of acreage, however this should not have much effect on BHGA
 - Peter wants to start a propagation facility in CT
 - § Propagate and quarantine in CT to distribute these plants in the U.S.
 - § Would like to have a greenhouse facility
 - § Plants would come in through JFK airport and would then be distributed directly to propagation facility
 - § Once plants are propagated at facility, they must grow for two years there before being distributed (two year quarantine)
 - § Alex must ensure that there will be a propagation facility before BHGA will consider doing business
 - § Alex is responsible for informing BHGA of all USDA requirements
 - § Once a facility and requirements are ensured, BHGA will allow CHGA to grow test batches
 - CT Brewers' Guild will buy these test hops in pellet form
 - § Alex's family will provide greenhouse for propagation facility

- § Once hops are propagated:
 - CT farmers pay Alex
 - Alex's farm pays initial royalties, but going forward, it is agreed by everyone present that individual farmers will pay royalties directly to the BHGA
- § Patrick advises that CHGA engages a lawyer with international business experience for this initial transaction

- By-Laws

- All present reviewed draft by-laws
- Areas needing more attention were noted
 - § Need to affirm dues amounts. \$20 and \$40 for associate and full members respectively was agreed upon by all present
 - § All present agreed that annual meeting will take place in January
 - § All present agreed to strike out "or solicited by" in lines 2-3 of the 7th paragraph of Article V, Section 2
 - § All present agreed that the duties of the Communications Director will be prefaced by "May include"
 - § All present agreed that the officers of the nominating committee will serve the same term length as Directors
 - § Patrick advises that everyone look into Article IV.
 - § All present agreed upon the following staggered terms for Directors
 - Communications Director and Vice President open for election after 1st year
 - Secretary and Treasurer open for election after 2nd year
 - President open for election after 3rd year

- Hop Pellet Facility

- Alex got his facility approved by the state
 - § Machine is shipping on August 24, 2016
 - § It is a Berkshire model, made new
 - § Alex will also get a backup die
- Alex currently working with Jamie from Dept of Ag
- Facility will be part of DeFrancesco and Son, Inc
- One stipulation is that Alex must give an annual tour of the facility
- Alex will provide cooler space for processed hops
- State has mandated that Alex keep prices competitive with other pellet facilities
- Alex will be responsible for due diligence in making sure source farms are clean
- Hops are not part of GAP
 - § There will be paperwork attesting to farm cleanliness

- Website
 - Will be established once CHGA has an EIN
 - We will send around an email to agree upon a domain name

- Discussion about CHGA Workshop
 - All present agreed that it was a success and turnout was impressive
 - Steve Jensen did a nice write-up in the weekly CT Ag Report

- Community/Publicity Events
 - Beer festival in September
 - § 27 local breweries will be there
 - § May be worth reaching out to sponsor
 - Kym's Cause/Hops for Hope
 - § Charity beer tasting event
 - § Matt is in contact with organizers

- ADHA
 - Alex informed them that it is a no for this year but we look forward to doing business with them in the future

- CT Brewers' Guild
 - Want a time period for hops testing (6 months)
 - Justin wants Alex to come to their August meeting
 - Justin and Alex will work with CT Dept of Ag on making a non-profit CT Beer Trail
 - § Folks are not happy with current for-profit beer trail
 - They are also working on putting together new farm brewery legislation

- All present agree that next Board meeting will take place on November 10, 2016
 - Location and time TBD

4:39 PM - Adjourn