

CHGA Board Meeting

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

Date: 03/15/2018

Attendees: Sally Ireland, Bill Ireland, Scott Burdick, Ryan Hannigan, Nate Bourgault, Steve Smelter, Jason Hoagland, Matt DiSciacca, Alex DeFrancesco, Doug Weber, Jim Lamondia, Andrew Wheeler, Eric Petersen, Nick Bernaiche

6:03pm- Meeting Commenced

- Alex Gives Introduction
- Matt Gives Overview of January 2018 Annual Meeting minutes
 - Minutes are unanimously approved
- Recap of January 13, 2018 Winter Seminars
 - Fred Behringer was not able to attend, however he said that he has been impressed with the quality of hops that have been sent to him for analysis
 - Demo of UVM drying oast and Alex's pelletizer were very well-received
 - Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the beer tasting
 - § Impressed with the difference in flavors between the different cascade beers
 - § Dana, President of the Brewers' Guild attended and was very impressed
- Jason gives Treasurer's report
 - Jason will follow up via email towards mid-year to collect 2018 dues
 - Treasurer's report unanimously approved
- CT Beer Fest recap
 - Great turnout
 - Alex held a booth there and brought many hops samples for local brewers to check out
 - This event was the catalyst for selling the remainder of the Alphasoma and Cascade hops from the Ag Stations
 - This event was a good example of the value of having a table at similar events
- Question raised as to having some sort of "CT Beer" label
 - Still working on this. However will have a CT beer trail this summer
- CAES meetings/planning for Summer Seminar

- Saturday, July 14th
- May have part of the meeting at the Thrall malt facility
- Alex is again trying to have Nathan from Four Star Farms do a seminar on drying/baling
- Looking for other speakers
- Likely do IPM talk, and other topics for roughly 3 hours of pesticide credits

- The CAES Valley Laboratory is putting together a general pesticide licensing course.
 - Everyone encouraged to get a license
 - Likely only cost is the book

- CT Brewers' Guild
 - Will now be accepting Associate members (non-brewers) ie Farms, CHGA
 - Associates will be added to the beer passport map
 - CHGA will likely join as an associate and CT Brewers's Guild will likely join CHGA as associate member

- Legislation
 - HB5036
 - § Includes a lot of different topics
 - § Was presented 2 weeks ago
 - § Aiming to help breweries be more competitive with neighboring states
 - § Do away with the 9-liter purchase limit per customer
 - § Package stores can do draft sales
 - Increase keg production at breweries
 - Wineries in CT currently have no purchase limit

- April 8 Mikro Beer Festival at Michael's Greenhouses
 - All Proceeds to Charity
 - We will have a booth there

- May be worth reaching out to Vo-Ag high schools to talk about hop growing

- Mildew/IPM spraying program
 - Jim Lamondia is happy to meet with folks and figure out the right program for them
 - Powdery mildew has arrived in CT

- Drying/baling hops
 - Start looking into this now before the season comes upon you

- 7%-8% moisture is perfect
- FSMA
 - People still do not know nearly enough about it
 - Large farms in the Pacific Northwest are voluntarily implementing FSMA
 - We encourage everyone to abide by FSMA
 - It was set up in 2011, just now being implemented
- CHGA and FSMA
 - All growers encouraged to get a grower number
 - It is important to label hops correctly
 - Varieties are taking on the Terroir effect
- Doug Weber
 - Has trademarked two new names, Conncade and Connook
 - These are cascade and chinook grown at Pioneer Hops
 - Doug received feedback from brewers that new notes/aromas were coming out of these hops
 - Doug's intent is to set an expectation with the end customer that beers brewed with these CT grown cascade and chinook hops will taste different from out-of-state ones
 - Doug is upfront with brewers that these hops are not a new variety, but a rebranding of an existing variety
 - Also a great opportunity to differentiate him in the market
- Andrew, Eric, and Nick
 - Knox Gardens, Hartford
 - Planning to grow hops in community gardens throughout the city of Hartford
 - Non-profit
 - Looking to find wild hops

8:05pm- Meeting Adjourned