

CT Hop Growers' Association  
Spring Quarterly Board Meeting  
March 21, 2019

Location: Joe's Filling Station, 35A Berlin Road, Cromwell, CT

Attendees: Alex Defrancesco, Jason Hoagland, Matt DiSciacca, Jeff Standish, Bill Ireland, Sally Ireland, Kathy Burdick, Scott Burdick, Mike Burdick, Bill Standish, Alan Fenrow, Joe Fydenkevez, Al Gondek, Jon Auclair, Randy Auclair, Jared Carroll, Dave Pikers, Brian (Concentric Brewing), Sean Rockwell, Christa Maturo, Andy Frederickson, Kevin Mardorf, Jim Lamondia, Doug Weber, Ally Hughes, Kevin Stewart, Joe Moon, Tony Mancini

6:10pm- Commence

- Recap of Annual Meeting Minutes
  - Unanimously passed
- Treasurer's report
  - Unanimously passed
- FSMA
  - PSR comes into effect in 2019 for most farms
    - Geared towards raw foods that aren't processed
    - Still uncertain as to where hops fall
    - No kill step in dry hopping
  - Other states
    - Out West, they have been complying on a volunteer basis
  - All Breweries around the country fall under FSMA, so they want their hops suppliers to comply as well
  - Farmers need due diligence
  - DoAG is helping farms to comply
    - In 2019, they will inspect for free and help you get up to speed before everything comes into effect
    - They are looking to help, not police
  - Animals
    - Need to be careful even if the animals are at the farm next door. What to do in the case that an animal comes into your hopyard
  - Exemption: Farm Breweries
    - If the hops are grown and the beer is brewed under the same LLC at the same location, they are exempt from FSMA
    - The idea is that they know exactly where the hops have been from start to finish

- Lou from Shebeen Brewing brought up his brother as a good resource for FSMA issues
- "Homework"
  - Working with the DoAg to help farmers who are exempt
  - Water source
    - Test at least 2x per year for well and municipal
    - Test at least 5x per year with 20 samples per test for surface water
  - Clean equipment
    - To clean or sanitize...both!
  - Irrigation
    - Exempt unless there is a leak
  - Clean processing facility
- Alex DeFrancesco motions that full-time CHGA members who are certified under C-GAP (or its successor program) can use the CHGA logo on their hops packaging
  - Unanimously approved
  - We will doctor the existing logo to include "proud member of"
- CT Brewers' Guild Winter Meeting
  - Spent most of the time talking about upcoming legislation...
- HB 7184
  - Breweries no limit on sale
    - Brewers Guild pushed for this
  - Currently working on this legislation
  - Farm Breweries/Cideries/meaderies/wineries can sell other Farms' products
  - Alex DeFrancesco and Kevin Mardorff spent a day at the capital for this discussion
- Prep for CT Brewers Guild Beer Fest
  - Over 60 CT breweries
  - Oakdale theater
  - 2 rooms plus outdoor space
  - All in all, almost 2000 attendees between the two sessions
  - CT BG brewed a batch at Backeast Brewing using all CT ingredients
  - We will have large display of CT hops and malts
  - CT grown beer labeling- in process
- Alex is working on setting up CHGA on Instagram and Facebook
- Alex motions that we should adopt the use of an emailing service such as Mail Chimp.

- Good for sending mass emails
- Can use read receipts
- Keep us within legal bounds of organizational mass-emailing
  - Vote is unanimously approved
- Communications Director Position
  - Ally Hughes gives her intro
  - Alan Fenrow gives his intro
  - Voting commences with all FT members present as well as Board Members
    - A tie vote is reached
    - Remaining FT members not present will be contacted via email to vote and break the tie

\*\*AMENDMENT- A majority was reached via email voting. Alan Fenrow has been elected as the Communications Director. After speaking with legal counsel, the Board has elected, and voted unanimously via email, to use Roberts Rules of Order in a situation where a tie vote is reached and cast re-votes to all voting members present at the meeting until a majority is reached going forward. The By-Laws will be amended to include this specific wording, even though they already mention Robert's Rules of Order.

- Summer Quarterly Meeting
  - Jim Lamondia is open to suggestions for seminar subjects
  - Al Gondek would like to host at his farm brewery
  - Likely will occur mid-July

7:57pm- Adjourn