

CT Hop Growers' Association
Winter Quarterly and Annual Meeting
January 18, 2020

Location: Stewards of the Land Brewery, 418 Forest Road, Northford, CT

Attendees: Alex Defrancesco, Matt DiSciacca, Alan Fenrow, Al Gondek, Jon Auclair, Kevin Mardorf, Kathy Burdick, Scott Burdick, Mike Burdick, Bill Ireland, Sally Ireland, Bill Balfour, Ally Hughes, Jim Lamondia, Kyle Swartz, Rich Ruggiero

10:50am- Commence

- Alex Gives intro
- Recap of Annual Meeting Minutes
 - Unanimously approved
- Treasurer's report
 - Unanimously approved
 - All dues invoices have been sent
- 2019 Recap
 - Big year with lots of changes
 - Fought for farm language to stay in liquor legislation
 - Farm-breweries, wineries, CT-grown
 - Amendments to be made this year
 - Changing the wording in the barrel tax exemption to 15 barrels per month, currently it is 15 barrels per year. This tax comes out to about \$7 per barrel
 - Growing
 - Interesting year
 - Lots of pests and diseases
 - Yields negatively affected
 - With lower yields, oils were more concentrated
 - Working with DoAg to provide incentive to brewers for making a 100% CT ingredient beer.
- 2020
 - Farmers that want to be FSMA certified, you MUST attend the DoAg training in February or March
 - Pesticides must be certified for your state
 - Make sure an employee is trained in pesticides!
 - Keep a journal for written proof of what you do day to day

- Katie will provide the draft checklist for our growers to edit and get back by mid-February
 - Events
 - CT Brewers's Guild beer fest March 28th at Oakdale Theater
 - We will have a CT ingredients table
 - Volunteers needed
 - 3 per shift, 2 shifts
 - Looking for samples from hop farmers
 - Bring to Alex the week before the event
 - Continue to work with CAES
 - Early Warning newsletter for pests/diseases
 - Important to be proactive
 - CT Brewers' Guild
 - February Meeting at Tribus
 - Board is up for elections
 - Alex DeFrancesco has been nominated as a board member
 - Alex is working with DoAg to set up a beer fest at Stewards of the Land Brewery
 - Featuring 100% CT-grown beer
 - State has said that they will help fund this event
- Presidential Election
 - Alex gives speech
 - It is noted that no nominations were received prior to the meeting
 - No floor nominations
 - Alex DeFrancesco is unanimously approved as president for another term.
- Next Meeting is at 6pm on March 26th at Norbrook Farm Brewery
- RMA link will be added to the CHGA website and draft FSMA checklist will be sent to growers for review

11:40am- Adjourn