



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



**DRAFT CT Farm Winery Development Passport Working Group Minutes**  
**165 Capitol Ave, Room G-8A, Hartford, CT 06106**  
**August 17, 2016**  
**3:00 pm**

Members Present (by phone): Michelle Niedermeyer, Lost Acres Vineyard, Chair; Jim Frey, Walker Road Vineyard; Cara Sawyer, Preston Ridge Vineyard. Absent: Hillary Criollo, Hopkins Vineyard; Blaze Faillaci, Dalice Elizabeth Winery. Others Present: Jane Slupecki, Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

Call to Order

Michelle Niedemeyer called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

Approval of February 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Cara made a motion to accept the February 9, 2016 minutes as submitted. Jim seconded. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.

Updates on Current and Future CT Farm Wine Development Council Funds

The Working Group had a brief discussion on historic budget information.

Passport Program 2016 Status

There was a discussion about complaints and concerns from the public and wineries. Jim will call the winery with concerns. Present and future expenses and temporary staffing were discussed. A public drawing was discussed, and how Jim will begin to investigate options for a public drawing. There was a discussion on the cost of and production of a Wine Passport postcard for the 2016 Big E.

Passport Program 2017

A discussion was held about passport participation and compliance to state law. Jim made a motion to recommend to the Council keeping the passport application the same, seconded by Cara, and the motion carried. Prizes for the 2017 passport were discussed. A motion was made by Jim to recommend to the Council keeping the prizes the same, which Cara seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The status and costs of a phone application-based passport were discussed. A discussion on wine festivals and their role and process of stamping was tabled for further discussion at the next meeting, after Durham Wine Festival.

Other Business:

Meetings will be held September 14, October 12 and November 9, 2016, from 3 pm to 4 pm, in order to complete the report due to the full council by November 11, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.

Submitted by:

Jane Slupecki, CT Dept of Agriculture  
August 18, 2016

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