



Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council (CFWDC)

Meeting Minutes for 13 December 2011

Chairman

Steve Reviczky steven.reviczky@ct.gov Commissioner of Ag. P

Council Members

Dick Auger	dick@taylorbrookewinery.com	Taylor Brooke Winery	P
Jamie Jones	jamie@jonesfamilyfarms.com	Jones Family Farm	A
Gary Crump	garyvin27@sbcglobal.net	Priam Vineyards	P
Bill Hopkins	hopkinsvineyards@charter.net	Hopkins Vineyards	P
Steve Vollweiller	svollweiler@yahoo.com	Sharpe Hill Vineyard	P
George Motel	gmotel@bozzuto.com	Sunset Meadow Vineyard	P
Gregory Weidemann	gregory.weidemann@uconn.edu	Dean & Director UCONN	A
Dr. Bill Nail	william.nail@po.state.ct.us	Ct Agricultural Station	A

Farm Winery Attendees

Jim Frey	frey65@sbcglobal.net	Walker Road Vineyard
Jim/Maureen Jearam	jearamwinery@hotmail.com	Jearam Winery
Joe Gouveia	gouveiavineyard	Gouveia Vineyards

Department of Agriculture Attendees

Jamie Smith	Jaimie.smith@ct.gov	DOAG
George Krivda Jr.		DOAG
Bob Pellegrino		DOAG

1 Call to order

- 1.1 Meeting was called to order at 10:03 by Chairman Reviczky.
- 1.2 Sign in sheet was distributed and email addresses were requested of all present
- 1.3 Jaimie Smith distributed the Agenda and minutes to the last meeting

2 Meeting Minutes

- 2.1 Gary Crump motioned to accept the minutes second by Dick Auger, discussion ensued with several corrections to the minutes. Changes will be made and submitted for final posting.
- 2.2 Motioned carried with 6 affirmative. (6 votes).

3 Chairman Report

- 3.1 The Commissioner reported that he attended the Wine Festival and tried to see everyone who participated but only saw three member wineries as the booths were very busy. He also noted that the Governor also attended the Festival. It was a great success.
- 3.2 The Commissioner reported that he has had discussions on the Council history with DAS and the Comptrollers Office. He is still gathering information on minutes of meetings and Treasurers reports. More to follow at future meetings.
- 3.3 Quality Assurance Program – The Commissioner discussed the need to make sure that if a product is labeled as “Connecticut Grown” or uses the Connecticut Grown logo that it is in fact CT Grown. The Department of Ag needs to help us in compliance with the regulations. He Long Range Planning Sub-Committee may be part of the overall QA compliance plan. DOG will work with the Department of Consumer Protection to qualify the rules as it applies to wine making.

4 Treasurers Report

- 4.1 A written treasures report was submitted by Bill Hopkins.
- 4.2 The time period was from 06/09/11 to 11/30/11
- 4.3 Beginning checkbook balance was \$27,255.41 ending balance \$32,125.77
- 4.4 Income was \$5,021.71
- 4.6 Copies of the budget were distributed with detailed list of expenses.
- 4.7 *A motion was made by George Motel and seconded by Steve Vollweiller to accept the report. Unanimous vote. (6 votes)*

5 Old Business – Reported by George Motel

- 5.1 Legislative Update
 - 5.1.1 A second Wine Festival was approved by the Legislature.
 - 5.1.2 The rules for wine sales at Farmers Markets are still not available or approved by local officials.
- 5.2 Big E Update – Reported by Bob Pellegrino
 - 5.2.1 The Big E went well. All wineries were on time although some left early.
 - 5.2.2 All wineries must provide total costs to Jaimie Smith as soon as possible.
 - 5.2.3 Received one complaint for the New Hampshire building of people pouring dump buckets outside the building instead of the sinks.
 - 5.2.4 Need Council vote on whether to participate in the Big E again. We are licensed to taste, but not to pour. We will never get a license to pour as there are limited license available.
 - 5.2.5 Jaimie suggested that maybe the Specialty Food Association be able to staff the booth to help those wineries that cannot fully staff the booth.
- 5.3 2011 Budget Review
 - 5.3.1 Passport printing costs were \$12K
 - 5.3.2 \$37K in non-lapsing funds (Community Investment Grant) less 10% Administrative costs to DOAG
 - 5.3.3 Need to review passport program as it is becoming “stale”.
- 5.4 Passport Drawing
 - 5.4.1 Gary and Jaimie to call winners and notify them.
 - 5.4.2 Jaimie reminded all wineries that they need to submit certificates for the wine prizes.
 - 5.4.3 1,773 completed passports were submitted.

- 5.4.4 Need to consider some reward for people for visit all wineries that participate in the Passport program.
- 5.4.5 There was an issue that some percentage fo the printed passports were missing the page for Sunset Meadows and Taylor Brooke. This is not the first year that this has occurred. The quality of the printing is a concern.
- 5.4.6 Need authorization to have the Specialty Food Association transcribe all passports into a data base for distribution to participating wineries. Gary Crump moved that we cap the expense for the data base work at \$500. Second by George Motel. No discussion. Unanimous vote. 6 affirmative (6 participants)
- 5.4.7 A motion was made by Dick Auger and seconded by Gary Crump to spend up to \$9k for prizes in the 2011 Passport Program. Unanimous vote. 6 affirmative (6 participants)

6 New Business

- 6.1 Long Range Planning
 - 6.1.1 George Motel will meet with the Commissioner to review the document.
 - 6.1.2 The 7 year exemption for wineries is an issue for discussion.
 - 6.1.3 The number of wineries opening vs the number of acres of grapes being planted is an issue that may slow the growth of the industry and maybe an opportunity for existing farmers to fill in the gap.
- 6.2 Budget/Council Work
 - 6.2.1 Motion made by Gary Crump and seconded by Steve Vollweiller to continue the Passport Program for 2012. 6 Unanimous votes (6 participants).
 - 6.2.2 The brochure needs changing. Will review at the March meeting.
- 6.3 2012 Wine Festival
 - 6.3.1 Festival date is July 28 and July 29 in Goshen
 - 6.3.2 Second festival will be in Eastern Connecticut. No confirmed date.

Motion was made to adjourn by George Motel and seconded by Dick Auger. Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

9 March 2012 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Conference Room #G-8A

Draft Agenda for 9 March 2012 Meeting

Call to Order

Meeting Minutes Review

Chairman Report

Treasures Report

Old Business

- Brochure update
- Budget review for 2012
- Passport Program update
- Long Range Planning sub-committee update

New Business

- Legislative Update

Meeting Close

Next Meeting