



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## Governor's Council for Agricultural Development PLANNING AND COORDINATION WORKING GROUP



### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD (June 25, 2013)

CT DoAg large conference room G-8A  
165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Henry Talmage, working group chair, called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. Other working group members present were Christine Applewhite, Phil Chester, Laura Francis, Lindy Gold, Frank Greene, Steven Reviczky, Lynn Stoddard, and Bruce Wittchen.

Working group member Kachina Walsh Weaver was absent.

#### II. INTRODUCTIONS

Working group members introduced themselves and their affiliations.

#### III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Steven Reviczky and Henry Talmage provided an overview of the council's work since it convened in January 2012.

#### IV. INTRODUCTION OF WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENT

Henry Talmage introduced the assignment that the Planning and Coordination working group will be undertaking in 2013: develop an implementation strategy for GCAD's 2012 Recommendation No. 4 regarding strengthening of the state Department of Agriculture and improved coordination among all agencies regulating agribusinesses.

#### V. DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT DELIVERABLES

Each member of the group spoke about his/her thoughts and experience regarding the assignment. The group engaged in an in-depth discussion regarding six potential suggestions for further consideration. These suggestions involve coordination at the local, regional in-state, state, and/or federal levels of government, as well as the state's educational system. Examples of successful coordination were discussed and the dual role of regulatory compliance and technical assistance provision acknowledged. Well informed agricultural stakeholders that minimize risk and seize opportunities would be a measure of success.

#### VI. DETERMINATION OF RESOURCES REQUIRED

The group discussed potential resources required for various suggestions discussed and the pros and cons inherent.

#### VII. RECAP AND NEXT STEPS

Henry Talmage discussed the potential highlight of the discussion and the next step which includes his follow up by email/phone with Department of Agriculture to determine a process for reviewing potential suggestions and completing the assignment.

#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Henry Talmage adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Katherine Winslow  
June 26, 2013