



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation



Minutes for January 21, 2016 Special Meeting

Council Members Present: Steven Reviczky, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg); Jonathan Edwards, Jonathan Edwards Winery; Jim Frey, Walker Road Vineyard. Participating by phone: Linda Auger, Taylor Brooke Winery; Russell Holmberg, Holmberg Orchards; Jamie Jones, Jones Family Farm & Winery; Gregory Weidemann, Dean, UConn College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Sciences.

Council Members Absent: Hilary Crillo, Hopkins Vineyard; Cameron Faustman, Associate Director, Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station; Dr. Frank Ferrandino, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station; George Motel, Sunset Meadow Vineyard; and, Michelle Niedermeyer, Lost Acres Vineyard, and DECD Commissioner Catherine Smith.

Other Attendees: Linda Piotrowicz, Rebecca Murphy, and Jane Slupecki, DoAg.

Call to Order

Commissioner Reviczky called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

Big E

Jonathan Edwards presented a cooperative plan for the Big E Subcommittee to run the Big E 2016 Wine Booth in the Connecticut Building. A discussion ensued. Jonathan announced that he found a potential management team, Keith Bishop, Bishop's Winery, and Jonathan Edwards Winery, to manage the booth for this one year as a trial. The conversation continued with detailed financial estimates. Rebecca Murphy shared legal precedents set by the Mallory Building wine booth. The discussion ended with a summation that included the estimate that a possible loss \$10,000.00 for the managing wineries was manageable. Jamie Jones made a motion that the Connecticut Farm Winery Development Council proceed with a cooperative approach for the management of the Connecticut Wine Booth in the Connecticut Building for one year for the 2016 Big E and authorize up to \$10,000 to support this effort. Seconded by Russell Holmberg, the motion carried unanimously. More discussion on next steps ensued. Commissioner Reviczky adjourned the meeting at 10:56 AM. The next regular meeting is February 11, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane M. Slupecki
January 25, 2016