



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CONNECTICUT MARKETING AUTHORITY**



Steven K. Reviczky
Chairman

Linda Piotrowicz
Executive Director

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JULY 13, 2016
CMA Office (Building A), 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT 06114**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Steven Reviczky (10:17 a.m. arrival), Bruce Benedict, Alexis Gazy, Randall Fiveash, Frank Musto, Joseph Ruffini

MEMBERS ABSENT: David Morse

ALSO PRESENT: DoAg/CMA staff and numerous guests

CALL TO ORDER: Randy Fiveash called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m., explaining Commissioner Reviczky had been delayed by another meeting that was running late.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Members reviewed draft minutes April 13, 2016. Bruce Benedict moved approve. Joe Ruffini seconded. The motion carried without discussion. Mr. Fiveash recessed the meeting at 10:15 a.m. to await the chair's arrival.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Commissioner Reviczky arrived at 10:17 a.m. and called the meeting back into session. He provided an update on the state budget and workforce reductions, including inactivation of the Maintainer 1 position at the Regional Market. He updated members on the status of the short-term request for proposal and tenancy of vacant space through December 31, 2016, and on the contract with a commercial appraiser to determine fair market values for warehouse space, current leaseholds, ground leases, and parking.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Piotrowicz reviewed the Income and Expenses and Short Term Investment Fund reports, providing input on recent and anticipated needed repairs, including several related to the railroad, and explained challenges resulting from the inability to fill the vacant maintainer position. She reported on 2016 farmers' market season and promotional campaign funded through a USDA Specialty Crop Block grant.

Several guests posed questions and offered comments on the operation of both the regional market as a whole and on the farmers' market. A colorful discussion ensued. Frank Musto moved to have a special meeting so members can focus on the appraisal project and next steps for vacant space. Alexis Gazy seconded. Bruce Benedict sought and received confirmation that such a meeting would be limited to discussion of appraisal findings, vacant space, requests for proposals, and timelines. The motion carried unanimously without further discussion. The meeting will be scheduled for July 28, 2016.

NEXT MEETING(S): A special meeting will be held July 28, 2016. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Commissioner Reviczky adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted: Linda Piotrowicz
July 14, 2016