



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



Steven K. Reviczky
Chairman

Linda Piotrowicz
Executive Director

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JULY 12, 2017
CMA Office (Building A), 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT 06114**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Steven Reviczky, Bruce Benedict, Alexis Gazy, Frank Musto, Jennifer Parmelee, Joseph Ruffini. **ALSO PRESENT:** Staff from the Connecticut Marketing Authority (CMA)/Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) and guests.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Randall Fiveash, David Morse.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Steven Reviczky called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jennifer Parmelee moved to approve the minutes from April 21, 2017. Frank Musto seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Commissioner Reviczky reported that the Connecticut General Assembly had not yet passed a budget. As a result, Governor Malloy was operating the state through executive order, resulting in significant cuts to DoAg programs but not to the Regional Market thus far. He also provided an update on development of the new lease template, indicating that it was nearly complete for presentation by the assistant attorney general at a special meeting. The final draft will be shared with members for their review prior to that meeting. Once finalized, the template will be used in a request for proposals (RFP) for vacant space in conjunction with Leasing and Property Transfer staff at the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). A special meeting will be scheduled to discuss the RFP.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Linda Piotrowicz reported on the Short Term Investment Fund and CMA's income and expenses, and a discussion ensued. She will ask DAS if income can be itemized in future reports. She then reported on a potential energy-efficiency funded project to replace the air conditioning unit at the restaurant, working through DAS. She also reported that two tenants had entered into new short-term use-agreements per CMA's approval of such agreements in 2015, and that an agricultural products distributor from outside the Regional Market had expressed interest in same, but reminded the group that CMA's prior approval was only for existing tenants in good standing. A discussion followed. Joseph Ruffini made a motion to offer the same six-month temporary-use agreement available to existing tenants to the distributor. Bruce Benedict seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Linda Piotrowicz will extend CMA's offer. A discussion about market activities ensued. Linda will look into replanting and maintaining planters through vendor on state contract.

NEXT MEETING(S): The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2017. A special meeting will be scheduled based on the assistant attorney general's availability to present the completed lease template. A second special meeting will be scheduled based on DAS Leasing and Property Transfer staff availability to discuss development of the RFP.

OTHER: Audience member Bill Driscoll, Sr., a tenant representing Heart of the Harvest and Capitol Sausage, asked to address CMA. He expressed his opinions about the time taken to develop a new lease template and for tenants to get new leases. DoAg Chief of Staff George Krivda commented on Mr. Driscoll's statements. A lively discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Reviczky adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Linda Piotrowicz
July 12, 2017