



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD OCTOBER 11, 2016

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

I. CONVENE MEETING

Chairman Reviczky called the meeting to order at approximately 1:09 p.m. Also in attendance were council members Henry Talmage, Gregory Weidemann, Shelly Oechsler, James Guida, Jason Hoagland, Kevin Sullivan and Michael Keilty. Members George Hindinger and Jamie Jones participated by phone.

Council members Allyn Brown, III, and Herb Holden, Jr., were absent.

Staff from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture also were present.

II. REMARKS FROM CHAIR

Commissioner Reviczky gave an update on the impact on the state's budget deficit and associated spending cuts on the agency and the Council's recommendations.

III. GROW CONNECTICUT FARMS NEXT STEPS

Based on the Commissioner's update, council members engaged in a discussion of the potential impacts of reduced agency funding on various agency programs, including several funded by the Community Investment Act, from which the agency is currently receiving a decreased allotment.

Member Henry Talmage subsequently proposed a motion that the Council adopt the following resolution:

"The Governor's Council for Agricultural Development supports the restoration of full funding for the Community Investment Act and the programs it supports."

The motion was seconded by member George Hindinger, and was approved unanimously by all members present.

Members further discussed advances and challenges in increasing the overall production and sale of Connecticut-grown food, including issues regarding controlled-environment agriculture, labor, energy, regulation, processing and distribution.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS:

The Council unanimously approved draft minutes from Council meetings of Oct. 6, 2015; January 15, 2016 and April 12, 2016.

V. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING(S)

The council agreed to schedule 2017 meetings on the first Tuesday of each quarter.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Jensen
October 20, 2016