



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD OCTOBER 22, 2013

Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

775 Bloomfield Avenue

Windsor, CT 06095

I. CONVENE MEETING

Commissioner Reviczky, chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:41 p.m.

Other council members in attendance were Allyn Brown, III, George Hindinger, Jason Hoagland, Herb Holden, Jr., Michael Keilty, Shelly Oechsler, Peter Orr, Kevin Sullivan, Jr., and Dr. Gregory Weidemann. Staff from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture also was present. Council member Jamie Jones attended by phone.

Council members James Guida and Henry Talmage were absent.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The council reviewed draft minutes from September 5, 2013. Michael Keilty moved to approve them. Shelly Oechsler seconded. The council accepted the motion unanimously with no discussion.

III. REMARKS FROM CHAIR

Commissioner Reviczky said it had been a long, challenging season in many ways and that he greatly appreciated the time and commitment of every member throughout the entire strategic planning project thus far. Referring to the draft 2013 report that was distributed, he pointed out the section on progress to date and to the great strides already made regarding the council's work.

Noting that each working group had discovered seemingly infinite layers, challenges, and opportunities in relation to each specific topic examined and assignment undertaken, he suggested the council narrow its focus for the coming year on a few key issues and dive more deeply into those.

IV. DISCUSSION OF YEAR-END REPORT

The council reviewed and discussed the draft of the 2013 report. Members came to consensus on final edits and concurred that the Department of Agriculture should make those changes and get the draft to the communications staff at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources for final layout so it can be printed and distributed as soon as possible.

V. NEXT STEPS

The council agreed it should narrow its focus for the coming year on no more than three or four issues it deemed to be of highest priority based on the opportunity to make the greatest progress, and then dive much more deeply into those through a working group structure designed for that purpose.

VI. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING(S)

The council's next quarterly meeting will be held November 12, 2013. Members came to consensus on the following quarterly meeting schedule for 2014:

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Tuesday, July 1, 2014

Tuesday, October 7, 2014

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Chairman Reviczky adjourned meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Piotrowicz

October 23, 2013