



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Connecticut Apple Marketing Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Friday March 22, 2024, at 1:00pm EST

Members Present: Ben Larose, Ellen Woolf, Jeff Rogers, Jim Wargo, Lauren Murtagh, Evan Lentz, Megan Grogan, Russell Holmberg, Sandy Dondero

Members Absent: Jeff Sandness

DoAg Staff Present: Commissioner Hurlburt, Jaime Smith, Erin Windham, Michael Wolf, Carole Briggs

I. Call to Order

Jaime Smith called the meeting to order at 1:04pm

II. Welcome & Introductions

III. Review General Statute - Apple Marketing Board, Sec.22-54s

Erin Windham led a discussion on Sec. 22-54s statutes pertaining to the Apple Marketing Board advisory language for member information.

IV. Ethics & FOIA, Carole Briggs, Staff Attorney, Department of Agriculture

Carole Briggs discussed the relevance of FOIA to the board and best practices.

V. Discuss Priorities and Annual Budget

Currently there are \$58,700 in available funds for 2024.

VI. Establish Meeting Frequency and 2024 Meeting Dates

The board discussed meeting bimonthly until they are comfortable shifting to a quarterly meeting schedule. The next meeting is planned for May.

VII. Appoint Chairperson

The board expressed the desire to have more information on the duties of the role to make a more informed decision on a chairperson.

VIII. UCONN Apple Sponsorship, Evan Lentz, Assistant Extension Educator - Fruit Production and IPM

Evan Lentz explained the projects at UConn and how sponsorships would could impact the board.

IX. Adjournment & Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 12:46pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Michael R. Wolf, Agriculture Marketing and Inspection Representative I, March 26, 2024