



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development



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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 13, 2012

Connecticut Farm Bureau Association
777 Bloomfield Avenue
Windsor, CT 06095

I. CONVENE MEETING

Commissioner Reviczky, council chair, called the meeting to order at 12:51 p.m., and introduced Peter Orr, appointed to the council by Governor Malloy to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Erica Andrews.

Other council members present were Allyn Brown, III, Winter Caplanson, James Guida, George Hindinger, Jason Hoagland, Herb Holden, Jr., Michael Keilty, Shelly Oechsler, Kevin Sullivan, Jr., Henry Talmage, and Dr. Greg Weidemann. Council members Jamie Jones and Greg Veneziano were absent.

Also present were Steve Anderson, George Krivda, and Linda Piotrowicz from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture; Jiff Martin from the University of Connecticut; and Jean King.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The council reviewed draft minutes from July 17, August 30, October 10, and November 7, 2012. George Hindinger moved to approve the minutes with a change to October 10 to reflect he was present. Shelly Oechsler seconded. The council unanimously accepted the motion.

III. REMARKS FROM CHAIR

Commissioner Reviczky provided a review of the topic-focused meetings held November 7, 2012. He explained council members had asked for a better understanding of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's structure and responsibilities, and provided an overview. He also provided a review of some state statutes relevant to the topics discussed during the November 7, 2012 session.

IV. DISCUSSION OF/ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLAN

The council reviewed the suggested recommendations developed at the November 7, 2012, meetings. Chairman Reviczky polled council members to determine which they would like to discuss that afternoon. There was consensus that proposed recommendations A1, A2/C2, B2, B5, C1, and C5 should be discussed. Extensive discussion ensued.

The council reached consensus that proposed recommendations A1, A2/C2, B5, C1, and C5 should be developed into recommendations for the *Grow Connecticut Farms* strategic plan to be presented in early January. The council also added a recommendation to perform a comprehensive review of agricultural labor issues to the plan.

The council reviewed a draft outline for the plan and agreed to meet in December to review a draft of the plan itself.

V. NEXT COUNCIL MEETINGS

There was consensus that the council should have a special meeting on December 13, 2012. The council also reached consensus to meet in 2013 on the third Tuesday of February, May, and August, and the second Tuesday in November.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Chairman Reviczky adjourned meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Piotrowicz
November 14, 2012