

New York State Maple Producers Association

Minutes of September 27, 2017 Meeting

Held at 301 Myron Road, Syracuse, NY

Meeting called to order at 10:00am, by President Tony Van Glad. The Secretary read the roll. Present were, Michael Bennett*, Joy Herfurth*, Dwayne Hill*, Hugh Newton*, Eric Randall*, Lawrence Rudd*, Scott St.Mary*, Doug Thompson*, President Tony VanGlad*, Don Weed*, Treasurer Karl Wiles*, Haskell Yancey*, Vice President Greg Zimpfer*, Secretary Chantell Hotaling, Edward Newcombe, Gordon Putman, David Schiek, Executive Director Helen Thomas, Chris Welch, Nate Williams, Joseph Ganley, Stephen Childs, Cornell Maple Specialist, Dean and Ruth Esther Delavan, Lyle & Dottie Merle. Voting members listed in alphabetical order. (*indicates voting members).

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Review of minutes from 5-17-2017, motion to approve the minutes as presented by Eric Randall, 2nd by Dwayne Hill –carried

4. Officer Reports

a. Presidents report- Tony Van Glad, report in appendix.

b. Treasurers report- Karl Wiles, report in appendix. Concerns of Karl's: membership costs do not reflect the cost of servicing the member, a lot has been done to make the fair booth more professional, result is higher cost and not higher net. He is encouraging the board to think about these concerns. Motion by Eric Randall to accept Treasurer's report, 2nd by Doug Thompson -carried.

c. Executive Director Report-Helen Thomas, report in appendix.

5. Unfinished Business

a. Cornell Endowment, no action

b. Syrup Quality Assurance, no action

c. Best Practices Guide: Committee met in the Spring of 2017, the first 5 chapters are completed, the rest are being worked on, goal to complete in October, so that Ag and Markets can have ready for VVS conference.

d. Market Surcharge for bulk syrup sales. Committee reported little progress due to lack of communication with Vermont. Tony directed the committee to continue research and report at the next meeting. Tony confirmed that the Committee members are Chairman Gordie Putman, Lyle Merle, Joe Ganley, Eric Randall, Dwayne Hill, and Mike Bennett.

e. The Sage Award for 2017, first award since establishment of fund in 2011 to be given to Ben Taylor. Motion by Dwayne Hill to accept Sage Committee Report, 2nd by Greg Zimpfer- carried. Treasurer will prepare check for award to be presented to Ben Taylor at VVS Conference, in January. See report in appendix.

6. New Business

a. Forest tent caterpillars in St. Lawrence and Clinton counties have defoliated trees this year. Jerry Carlson has communicated what actions DEC will be taking. We will share the link to the DEC website so members can figure out if they have enough egg masses to be a problem. We had an article in the summer Pipeline as to what to expect concerning an outbreak. The window for spraying for the Forest Tent Caterpillar is very small. The cost for spraying is approximately 28 dollars an acre, it needs to be done the first 2 weeks of May. There will be a class at VVS conference on how to manage this problem. David Smart spoke with Tony last week, Clinton County producers think we need publicity as well as more Government action about this threat. Doug Thompson spoke extensively about the problem in his sugarbush. Tony suggested crop insurance. Doug has looked into USDA Crop insurance: to get this you have to show 10 years of sap production, basic coverage only covers you after 50 percent loss, and then only 26 dollars per gallon of syrup. Mike Bennett thinks education is very important to let producers know what to look out for, suggests sending a post card alert to member producers, to tell them to be on the lookout for FTC and how to handle

this and who sprays for it. We can also do email blast to all members. It is important to have an article in the fall Pipeline, and have pictures showing what egg masses look like, also showing what leaves that have been eaten look like. Tony directed that Helen will email all members this information, and post cards will be mailed to any member living in the Northern Tier. Other suggestion was more outreach to Government officials. This can happen at upcoming events such as US Farm Bill outreach sessions, contact Tony has with commissioner, etc.

b. IMSI Delegate, Lyle Merle will continue for one year as our Delegate, and Alternate will be Eric Randall, NAMSC Delegate will be Eric Randall and Alternate will be Lyle Merle.

c. Mike Bennett made motion to allow D&G to use our logo at no charge on their jug, 2nd by XXXX, Vote 3 yes, 10 no- not carried. Motion made by Dwayne Hill to allow D & G use with negotiated amount coming back to the Association for designated donations. Executive Committee will be in charge of further discussions with D & G. 2nd by Eric Randall, Vote 11 yes -carried.

d. draft Sexual Harassment Policy presented. Motion by Hugh Newton to adopt policy as written, 2nd by Doug Thompson- carried

7. Association Committee Reports

a. Maple Center Report, David Schiek, report in appendix. Karl, Joe, Chantell, Helen, and David are committee to work with NY State Fair management to explore Maple Day at the Fair to start in hopefully 2018!

8. Other Reports

a. Ag and Markets-Joe Ganley, report in appendix.

b. Legislative Affairs, Dwayne Hill, report in appendix.

c. Steve Childs Cornell Maple Program report, report in appendix.

d. North American Maple Syrup Council-Eric Randall, report in appendix.

e. VVS report, Keith Schiebel, not attending. They are working on a Fall trip to NYC and January conference materials are out.

f. Mike Bennett informed us that the first meeting for 2018 Maple Tour was last week, the dates are 7-15, 7-16, 7-17 2018 at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga. Mary Jeanne Packer will be the chair. Motion by Doug Thompson that Upper Hudson plans be accepted to host the 2018 Maple Tour, 2nd by Scott St. Mary- carried.

9. Date for next meeting is January 5, 2018, at VVS High School, 10AM

Meeting adjourned at 3:11