

TACF-MA Annual Meeting
November 9, 2003
Framingham State College

The following Board members were present for the 9 a.m. meeting: Anne Myers, Frank Howard, Rich Hoffman, Mike Meixsell, Brad Smith, Dave Ugucconi, Guy Shepard, Rufin Van Bossuyt, Sandy Gessford, Dave Gessford, John Emery, Gary Jacob, Susan Cormier, Charlotte Zampini and Jim Garland.

Susan Cormier welcomed everyone, made announcements concerning merchandise and food and thanked Charlotte Zampini for arranging for the use of the facilities.

Elections – Gerry Cormier – Nine of the 17 Board members are elected this year along with the officers. Ballots were distributed to Board members at the last meeting and were available today for anyone who needed one. There were no additional nominations from the floor for Board members and/or officers. There was a quorum present, and each candidate for Board membership and each officer listed on the ballot received a vote from more than half of the quorum and were elected. Board members re-elected for a 2-year period were Susan Cormier, John Emery, James Garland, Frank Howard, Michael Novack, Rufin Van Bossuyt and Charlotte Zampini. John Pribilla has resigned from the Board, and Dave Gessford is not running for re-election. New Board members elected for a 2-year period to fill these two vacancies were Yvonne Federowicz and Kathy Desjardin.

Officers elected were as follows:

Susan Cormier – President
Mike Meixsell – Vice President
Sandy Gessford – Secretary/Clerk
Anne Myers – Treasurer

Membership – Sandy Gessford – We are now carrying 380 members on our roll although 20 of these have expired. We are keeping these 20 on our membership list because they will, in all likelihood, renew their memberships shortly. This is an encouraging increase in our membership. Of these 380, only 54 are for less than the regular \$40 membership fee. Each regular membership entitles us to \$15 from National each year, but we do not get this money for anything less than a regular membership. The number of memberships for under \$40 is an improvement from previous years.

Budget – Anne Myers – Anne distributed a draft budget to be voted on at the January Board meeting. Anne noted that National is behind in distributing membership funds. We have only received funds for the first quarter of 2003. Anne requested that anyone planning to donate to the chapter to please make the donation directly to the chapter instead of including it in the membership fee to National. Donations from the Sudbury Foundation for orchard use have helped to keep us solvent. There is \$500 available to each orchard manager for irrigation when needed.

Anne Myers distributed the harvest report.

Chestnuts – Frank Howard – There are roasted American chestnuts for all to sample in the lunchroom. There are also three 1-pound bags of chestnuts that will go to the highest bidders at the end of the day.

Susan welcomed Kathy Desjardin and Yvonne Federowicz as new members to the Board.

The meeting was then turned over to the morning speakers.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra M. Gessford, Secretary