NHMPA Board of Directors Meeting

Conference Call

March15, 2020 8pm

Participants: Dave Kemp, Win van Mourik, Darrell Fisk, Chris Olsen, Sue Folsom, Nick Kosko

Absent: Bill Cheney

Agenda: Maple Weekend 2020 and COVID-19 concerns

The meeting started at 8:10pm after Nick was able to get the members on the conference call. At that point much discussion was had about the issues that the spread of COVID-19 may have during Maple Weekend and the risks to everyone involved. Along with that was the concern for many sugarhouses who rely heavily on this weekend for a substantial amount of their income.

It was noted that some sugar houses had already started pulling their participation in Maple Weekend out of caution. After much discussion the Board recognized the need to cancel the Promotion portion of Maple Weekend as necessary. A motion was made by Sue Folsom to “Cancel the Promotion of Maple Weekend with the understanding that individual sugar houses may choose to open at their discretion.” It was seconded by Dave Kemp. The vote was:

Win – yes

Darrell – yes

Dave – yes

Chris – yes

Sue – yes

The motion carried. Nick will have Brenda draft up a press release to be reviewed by the Promotion Committee and we will get an email out to the membership asap to inform them of this decision.

It was noted that many events had been cancelled already and rescheduled to the fall, and Vermont has done this for their event as well. We know that NH gets a large influx of tourism in the fall. After a bit more discussion we decided NHMPA can sponsor a new Maple event for the fall with savings from the Maple Weekend budget advertising and some additional funds to promote this event, perhaps around Columbus Day but a firm date will be decided on later.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm