



NHMPA 06/10/2025 Monthly Meeting Minutes 7:00 pm - via Zoom

Members Present: Andrew Chisholm, Shawn Atkins, Ryan Sheehy, Dave Kemp, Chris Hicks, Kate Ziehm, Christa Campbell (Secretary)

Non-board members present: Lynne Blye(Champions of NH)

Members Absent: Chris Olsen, Gene Chapdelaine

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Andrew Chisholm.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes/Upcoming Meeting Dates

- A. May 13, 2025 meeting minutes – A motion to approve the meeting minutes from the previous meeting by Shawn, seconded by Ryan; motion carried.
- B. Next monthly meeting – Tuesday, July 8, 2025, via Zoom, 7 pm

Old Business

- A. **Grant Update** - Christa opened up the new bank account. Andrew went to the bank to get the signature page completed. They spelled Christa's name incorrectly and also the association's name. Christa advised she went down to the bank again today and resigned. She also gave the bank the meeting minutes to add both Christa and Andrew to the account as signers. Andrew reached out to the anonymous donors that had reached out to him. One has given him a donation and he deposited it into the new account. Andrew advised that the



grant could be opened up to solicitations for anybody to apply for the grant and make the deadline December 1st.

- B. **Fairs** - Cheshire, Deb Locke agreed to run the fair. Shawn mentioned he would be available to help as well. There should be a lot of hands on. Then the Big E it is more of a challenge for NH Maple, but Andrew mentioned it is a very worthwhile fair. Lynne Blye has been running the building for quite some time, maybe even decades. There has been some miscommunications and rocky roads over the last few years, the association has struggled a bit to keep up and meet the expectations of the fair. Lynne has joined our board meeting so we can get her perspective, concerns, and really some of the needs in that building, from us. We can also communicate some of our challenges as well, NHMPA would like to work some of this out. Lynne works for Champions of NH which is a non profit entity of its own and was started by the Department of Agriculture. It is now a completely separate entity which Lynne manages, she manages the entire building and exhibitors. Andrew advised that everyone is on the same page, he feels that NHMPA should be in that booth down there, because it's a better representation of the entire State. It has more of a broad reach across many producers across the State, and it would be a mistake for the association to not be there. The Big E is more of a marketing and a promotions opportunity than it is a profitable fair for the association, the association is okay with the \$300.00 a day for labor to Champions of NH. It would take the association to get volunteers, pay hotel fees, ect. Setup the day before and breakdown after would not be an issue as it worked last year. NHMPA could have fill-ins for what Mike Moore supplied to the Big E. Stewart and Johns and James Gove have agreed that they would supply syrup. Andrew talked about seeing reports or knowing how much inventory is being sent and sold. Lynne said that a report can be sent everyday. Lynne suggested more tools to be there for people to be able to reach out to producers. Andrew mentioned replenishing supplies from day one to day 17 so the shelves are always full and also having some people there like empty containers. Lynne said the General Store will be moved. The discussion continued with Lynne regarding the Big E and the support from NHMPA.



New Business

- A. **Container Update-** There hasn't been any containers produced. Andrew was hoping Dave could give an update on the merger with McClure's and Bacon jug for containers. Dave mentioned to CDL that NHMPA is low on pints and quarts. Dave also mentioned that they are going to use the impact Cap in black, red, and green cap. All 3 colors will be available. They will be starting in June with half pints. Discussion continued with the jug container issue. Andrew mentioned that NHMPA has a pay as you go type of contract with McClure's/Bacon, they give us what we pay for. From the Association's point of view, it would be difficult for us to get into a different system with CDL. Where they say, Oh, you ordered 720 cases of quartz. We'll have them all ready for you in 2 weeks, because we're running quartz this month and for us financially it would not work well. Andrew would have a hard time paying a bill for \$90,000 on containers. Andrew would like to see what their thoughts are and how this would work, how they would allocate the entire order because the order for the year for NHMPA is about \$230,000 to \$250,000.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Shawn with a second by Andrew; motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christa Campbell, *NHMPA Secretary, Morning Ag Communications*