



NHMPA 05/13/2025 Monthly Meeting Minutes 7:00 pm - via Zoom

Members Present: Andrew Chisholm, Shawn Atkins, Christa Campbell (Secretary), Kate Ziehm

Non-board members present:

Members Absent: Chris Olsen, Dave Kem, Chris Hicks, Gene Chapdelaine, Ryan Sheehy

The meeting was called to order at 7:19 pm by Andrew Chisholm.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes/Upcoming Meeting Dates

- A. April 22, 2025 meeting minutes – A motion to approve the meeting minutes from the previous meeting by Shawn, seconded by Andrew; motion carried.
- B. Next monthly meeting – Tuesday, June 10, 2025, via Zoom, 7 pm

Old Business

- A. **Website Update- Andrew** is still waiting to coordinate a meeting with Ryan and Darcy Creative. Andrew will touch base again. nhmaplemap.com last year had 81,600 hits on the website; this year there were 227,000 hits. NHMPA is on the right track with the number of hits on the website, to be able to sell ad space.
- B. **Grant (Scholarship)** - The board decided to focus on calling it a grant rather than a scholarship, targeting beginner producers. The grant will be available to members who are beginning producers with 10 years or less experience. Applications are due December 1st, with awards up to \$1,000 announced at the January annual meeting. The board agrees to set up a separate bank account for the grant funds, with up to 15%

Tel 603-833-2347
info@nhmapleproducers.com
www.nhmapleproducers.com



allocated for administrative fees. Andrew and Christa will develop a simple application process, and grant recipients will be encouraged to share their project outcomes at the following year's annual meeting. Christa will create a template. The board discussed opening a new account, just allocated to the grant funds, to keep it separate from the daily activities in the regular bank account. The account signers will be Christa Campbell and Andrew Chisholm. A motion for Christa to open a new checking account at TD Bank for the sole purpose of the grant activities with Christa and Andrew as signers on the account was made by Shawn, seconded by Chris; motion carried, all in favor; motion approved. Christa mentioned that she would be off for a few days and would start working on the bank account when she returned.

- C. **Maple Museum** - Andrew advised that there are no new updates, just that the lawyer fees were way too high and he is looking at other opportunities.

New Business

- A. **NH Farm Forest (fix plan)**- considering it more as a promotional opportunity for maple producers rather than a significant revenue generator. They plan to promote it as a spring event for the Association in 2026, potentially including a barbecue or lunch to attract more members. The conversation then shifts to the Big E fair, where they discuss potential changes to the booth layout and the possibility of having producers set up on the front lawn for New Hampshire day. They also address changes in maple syrup suppliers for various fairs, including Cheshire, Big E, and Deerfield, due to Mike Moore's decision to stop contributing. The meeting concludes with updates on jug production and candy box orders.
- B. **Big E** - Andrew has the form to submit for this year's Big E and will get that in.
- C. **Survey** - Andrew and Christa discussed the upcoming survey for the membership. Andrew mentioned that they would add a question about the grant and word it positively. Christa expressed her desire to review the survey with Andrew and make necessary adjustments.



Christa mentioned that she would be off for a few days and would start working on the bank account. The team agreed to meet again to finalize the survey and other tasks.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Andrew with a second by Shawn; motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

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