



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## Governor's Council for Agricultural Development



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### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD OCTOBER 11, 2012 Connecticut Department of Agriculture 165 Capitol Avenue, Room G29 Hartford, CT 06106

#### I. CONVENE MEETING

Commissioner Reviczky, council chair, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. Other council members present, all by phone, were Herb Holden, Jr., Jamie Jones, Michael Keilty, Kevin Sullivan, Jr., Henry Talmage, and Dr. Greg Weidemann.

Council members absent included Allyn Brown, III, Winter Caplanson, James Guida, Jason Hoagland, Shelly Oechsler, and Greg Veneziano.

Also present were Linda Piotrowicz and Steve Anderson from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, and, by phone, Jiff Martin from the University of Connecticut.

#### II. UPDATE ON GROW CONNECTICUT FARMS STRATEGIC PLAN

Commissioner Reviczky updated the council on components of the strategic planning project completed to date, including 55 in-depth stakeholder interviews, 232 online surveys, and 4 regional listening sessions.

He reviewed the next steps, including the first full day of topic-focused meetings with invited content experts scheduled for November 7, 2012, review of recommendations, and drafting and presentation of the first iteration of the plan, *Grow Connecticut Farms*, version 1. Another day of topic-focused meetings will be arranged for late winter, tentatively in February.

The topic-focused meetings on November 7 will involve three breakout sessions. The first will focus on farm-to-institution markets and infrastructure; the second will address consumer education and training and marketing; and the third will deal with input costs, labor, and regulatory environments. Recommendations for the council to consider including in the plan will be developed during the sessions and delivered to the council for discussion and decision at its November 13, 2012, quarterly meeting.

#### III. NEXT COUNCIL MEETINGS

- A. Topic-Focused Meeting Session 1 (Wednesday, November 7, 2012)
- B. Quarterly Meeting (Tuesday, November 13, 2012)

#### IV. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Chairman Reviczky adjourned meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Piotrowicz  
October 16, 2012