

Vermont Cheese Council Executive Committee Agenda

Wednesday, August 22, 2012

Present: Mark, Christopher, Vince, Rachel, Lisa, Jeannine, Nat, Jeremy, Peter Dixon.

Meeting started 1:25.

We started with much discussion about recent FDA inspections of Vermont cheesemakers, including a report by Nat about Shelburne Farms' experience with a recent inspection. There is concern in the cheesemaking community about how best to deal with these inspections. We will look at forming a subcommittee to address FDA/food safety related issues, including reaching out to state government for help.

RBEG/financials – Rachel's salary (approx. \$14k) April-July would use most of the remaining RBEG funds. (Salary would ordinarily be paid out of other funds). Mark made a motion to use the funding accordingly - passed without opposition. There will be ~\$4k left. Christopher made a motion to use remaining funds to pay towards 2013 ACS sponsorship, passed without opposition.

VCC computer is not currently working to be able to do financial reports, need to take it to Small Dog for repairs.

Risk Reduction – DJ will send an update via email.

Marketing & Promotion

Video/photography – Rachel working with Jordan Silverman to get video quote.

Cheesemaker Festival – We will table discussion until our September meeting, to meet with the Festival organizing committee to debrief and brainstorm for 2013 and beyond.

<u>HACCP Handbook & Food Safety</u> – Peter spoke about revisions to make handbook clear that individual cheesemakers are responsible for specific processes and CCPs for their own cheeses. Jeremy spoke about his concern that any written recommendations for specific types of cheeses may be misconstrued and give VCC liability for problems that could occur. Not all board members have read the latest draft, so we will read it and give feedback by September 5th.

Admin/Miscellany



Meeting Schedule $\,-$ next meeting September 19th at 11am for Handbook discussion, 1pm for Cheese Festival debrief.

The Board went into executive session at 3:20.

Respectfully submitted

Nat Bacon