

Fairgate Farm, Inc.
40 Clinton Avenue, Suite 101
Stamford, Connecticut 06901

Board Meeting

May 25, 2022

5:45 p.m.

Agenda

TO: Courtney Nelthropp
Richard Ostuw
Sheila Williams-Brown

- a. Call to Order
- b. Approve Minutes of April 22, 2020
- c. Appointment of Directors
- d. Election of Officers
- e. Farm Update
- f. Resolution:

22-01: Approval Contract with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture for
"Home Grown" Grant

- g. Adjourn

Fairgate Farm, Inc.
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
April 22, 2020

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of Fairgate Farm, Inc. was hereby held via a Zoom meeting on April 22, 2020.

The meeting was called to order at 5:49 p.m.

Attendees

Present:

Courtney Nelthropp
Rich Ostuw
Sheila Williams-Brown

Absent: None

Also Present:

Vin Tufo
Natalie Coard
Marcia Bennett
Lester McKoy
Adriana Ospina
Susan Rutz
Christine Young

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Director Ostuw motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors for January 22, 2019, seconded by Director Williams-Brown and approved unanimously.

2. **Appointment of Directors** –

- Director Nelthropp appointed Directors Williams-Brown and Ostuw to full terms on the Board of Directors; the motion was approved unanimously.

3. **Election of Officers** –

- Director Nelthropp nominated Director Ostuw as Chairman; the motion was approved unanimously.
- Director Nelthropp nominated Director Williams-Brown as Vice Chairman; the motion was approved unanimously.

4. **Fairgate Farm Updates** –

Mr. Tufo reported on the current activity at Fairgate Farm. Although the COVID-19 crisis has impacted the farm's ability to host volunteer and community groups, a small workforce has made significant progress. Ms. Williams-Brown described the recent spring crops planted and the greenhouse full of starter plants ready to go in the ground when the temperatures warm up. The mild winter has given a head start on the growing season.

Mr. Tufo discussed the grant renewal from the Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare Foundation earlier this year allowing us to continue to employ our Community Outreach Coordinator for a second season. Fairgate Farm received an emergency \$10,000 grant from the Foundation to directly provide food assistance to those in need during the crisis. Farm Manager Pete Novajosky, along with volunteers, have already provided our Vita Co-Educator families with essential food by working with a wholesale supply source.

Mr. Tufo reported that the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program grant is in its third and final year. Due to the crisis however, Fairgate Farm has applied for a modification that would extend the grant to 2021.

Fairgate Farm has received a Farm Viability grant award of \$21,000 from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. With these resources, the Farm will build a new greenhouse to allow crops to be grown and host school and community groups for educational purposes year-round. The greenhouse will also provide an indoor winter market expanding upon our summer farm market.

5. **Resolution:**

20-01 Approval to enter into a contract with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture

Be it resolved by the Housing Authority of the City of Stamford, acting in the best interests of Fairgate Farm, Inc., enter into a contract with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. In furtherance of this resolution, Vincent Tufo, Executive Director, is duly authorized to enter into and sign said contracts for \$21,000 on behalf of Fairgate Farm, Inc. The Executive Director is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the state of federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions and revisions thereto.

➤ Director Ostuw motioned to approve, seconded by Director Nelthropp

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 6:04 p.m., upon motion duly made by Director Ostuw, seconded by Director Williams-Brown, the Board meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Vincent Tufo, Executive Director

FAIRGATE FARM, INC.
40 Clinton Avenue, Suite 101
Stamford, Connecticut 06901

Board Meeting Date: May 25, 2022

Resolution Number: 22-01

RESOLUTION

Subject: Approval Contract with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture for “Home Grown” Grant

Background: A contract for the “Home-Grown” (Project), funded by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture’s (DoAg) Farm Viability Grant Program, has been awarded to Fairgate Farm, Inc.

The Home-Grown project will support urban agriculture in Stamford through 1) an educational campaign to highlight the nutritional and environmental benefits of Fairgate Farm to West Side residents and help draw neighborhood volunteers to the facility; 2) upgrades to an existing greenhouse that will boost food production at the site; and 3) investment in new planting, harvesting, and washing equipment that will improve efficiency and food safety.

The Home-Grown Project will be undertaken at 129 Stillwater Avenue, Stamford, Connecticut is scheduled to be complete within 18 months. The maximum amount payable under this Contract is \$28,400 subject to cost reimbursement. The Project will address key aspects of food security, food sovereignty, agriculture education, and reducing carbon emissions.

Resolution: Be it resolved by directors of Fairgate Farm, Inc., to enter into a contract with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture to implement the “Home Grown” project. Accordingly, Vincent Tufo, Executive Director, is duly authorized to enter and sign a contract for \$28,400 and is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the state of Connecticut in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments and revisions thereto.

Vincent Tufo
Staff Member Submitting Report