

**MINUTES OF THE  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
CHILI APPRECIATION SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

**FEBRUARY 14, 2004**

The Executive Director called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The following Directors were present:

Mel FitzHenry, President  
Jim Ezell, Vice-President  
Jimmy Taylor, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
Renee Moore, Secretary  
Jim Stateczny, Treasurer  
Garnier Albus, Director  
Mikie McGarity, Director  
Bill Pierson, Director  
Ken Rodd, Director  
Dorathy Williams, Director  
Alan Dean, Executive Director

Also in attendance:

Robert Schrade, Alcalde

President FitzHenry welcomed all Board Members.

Upon the request of the President, the Board convened in Executive Session.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 9:20 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes of September 5, 2003 Meeting**

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell to approve the September 5, 2003 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

**Approval of Minutes of September 6, 2003 Meeting**

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell to approve the September 6, 2003 Special Board Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

### **Approval of Minutes of October 30, 2003 Meeting**

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell to approve the October 30, 2003 Special Board Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

### **Ratification of Board Action**

**MOTION** by Mikie McGarity to ratify the Board's action of refunding to George Roof the \$50 down payment on an Old 320 space. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

Renee Moore advised that the actions of the Great Peppers in approving the Eastern Regional Open and Texas Open by postcard ballot would require ratification at the Great Peppers' Meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Jim Stateczny submitted the Proposed Budget and Profit & Loss Analysis for the Board's information.

Stateczny advised that one of his concerns in going off the Board is that we need to get more people on the Board that have a business sense, who have run a business and know what it means to make money and lose money and handle overhead. As you go out and try to get people to try to run for the Board, please look for those kinds of people.

A discussion ensued relative to the CASI insurance.

Alan Dean advised that the property insurance was increased to reflect the structures at the Ranch.

Stateczny stated that eventually the insurance premiums will not be covered by the \$1.00 per cook recently assessed, however that's not a problem as the General Fund can make up the difference.

It was determined that the liability insurance limits would be discussed at the July Board Meeting.

**MOTION** by Jimmy Taylor to accept the Proposed Budget and Profit & Loss Analysis as presented. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

FitzHenry stated that CASI could no longer operate as a small charity; we are a big business.

### **Membership Report**

Mikie McGarity presented to the Board an updated Membership Report.

Dean asked if a report could be published by state of residence.

McGarity advised that it could.

The President questioned why the Corporate Membership plaques had changed from their original design. The script writing on the plaque is harder to read and the red color is not as professional in appearance.

It was determined that McGarity will contact the vendor to advise of the type plaque CASI wishes to be produced.

The President stated that one of the Corporate Members had asked if they could get something other than a plaque every year, possibly a hangtag with the year of membership.

It was determined that a choice of a new plaque or a hangtag will be offered to the Corporate Members.

### **Sponsorship Report**

Jim Ezell reported that last year was the largest ever for sponsorship. He continues to pursue additional sponsors. Ezell advised that framed photos of the sponsors and winners are forwarded to all sponsors after TICC.

All CASI members are encouraged to contact Mr. Ezell if they know of potential sponsors.

### **Tallymaster Report**

Bill Pierson reported that as of February 14, there have been 173 cookoffs, 5,355 cups of chili judged, and a total of \$358,841.00 raised. There have been 98 cooks qualified and 41 show teams. There are no delinquent cookoffs at this time.

Pierson advised that he distributed an item relative to residency and guidelines to determine such. This has become an issue with transient chili cooks.

Renee Moore read the motion adopted at the September 7, 1996, Great Peppers' Meeting in Memphis: Motion by David Manske that residency be determined by where one lives and a valid driver's license address is used.

The issue of military driver's licenses was discussed, as well as those who are retired and do not reside in one area annually.

It was determined that the 1996 determination would stand, and that if a question arises as to a cook's residency, it will be determined by the driver's license address.

Robert Schrade asked how many wristbands are to be issued to show teams at TICC.

Mel FitzHenry advised that small show teams are given 4 bands and large show teams are given 8.

Moore stated that the distribution of wristbands was an issue at TICC. A captain may arrive and ask that the wristbands be given to the individual team members as they arrive, however the names of those individual team members are not maintained at the gate.

It was determined that the show team captain will be given the wristbands for distribution to their team members.

### **Terlingua Trails Report**

Jim Stateczny stated that Bob Horan is doing an excellent job as Editor of the *Terlingua Trails*.

### **Chilicity Report**

Ken Rodd advised that he's answered a number of chili cookoff inquiries.

Renee Moore advised that copies of news releases reporting on TICC from several Terlingua area newspapers had been placed at each Director's seat.

Alan Dean stated that on the CASI letterhead the "Chilicity" title has been changed to "Public Relations". Dean felt there was a need for someone to work full time on publicity for CASI.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Alan Dean reported that in an effort to get people to read and follow the rules more closely, a number of volunteers are working on a flysheet to accompany the rules packet that simplifies running a cookoff.

Facilitators are needed to conduct the Certified Officials Training in various areas.

An attempt will be made to compile a CASI handbook that contains administrative information for the Pods. It will be a work-in-progress to be distributed at the Great Peppers' Meeting in Baltimore and will be updated annually.

Dean outlined the problems with receipt of Pod credentials at the Great Peppers' Meeting in Little Rock. There were problems with over half of the Pod's credentials. In the future when the packets are mailed, they will be required to return them immediately.

Dean stated that no credentials information has been received from Pepe's Pod or Golden Triangle Pod.

Pods need to consider when they conduct their annual elections, in order that new officer information can be provided prior to the Great Peppers' Meeting.

Dean suggested that it be determined exactly what constitutes a Pod Cookoff.

Renee Moore stated that the By-Laws do not require an annual submission of credentials and, additionally, do not provide for a penalty if not submitted. The By-Laws require a Pod to work for the benefit and promotion of chili through CASI only, to maintain a paid membership of at least twenty-five members, to hold an annual election of officers, and to hold a CASI Pod cookoff during the year. While the credentials confirm that all these have occurred annually, there is no requirement for submission of credentials.

It was determined that a By-Laws change will be considered at the July Board Meeting to require a Pod to submit credentials annually prior to the Great Peppers' Meeting. Additionally, Dean will write an article for the *Terlingua Trails* addressing this issue.

Dean apprised the Board of the change, after the Great Peppers' Meeting, of the Lake Texoma Pod to the Lake Tawakoni Pod.

Mikie McGarity stated that since this is a new Pod in a new area with new officers and members that she doesn't recognize them as being a Pod until seated at the Baltimore Meeting.

It was determined that the Lake Tawakoni Pod is a functioning Pod but will have to apply to be seated at the Great Peppers' Meeting.

Dean advised that the distribution of official's shirts would be handled differently this year. They will be available for pick up at TICC rather than mailing. If someone cannot attend, they may have someone obtain the shirt for them.

Moore suggested that Board job descriptions be published in the *Terlingua Trails* in order to assist the membership who are considering running for the Board.

### **Rancho CASI de los Chisos**

Jimmy Taylor reported that thus far contributions in the amount of \$2,871.00 have been received for the City Hall Building.

Mel FitzHenry stated that, as discussed in the past, a water catch system is needed for the pavilion area. This would divert some of the water from the pavilion and provide water for washing down the area, as well as an emergency source for water in the event of a fire since the Terlingua Fire Department only carried a 500-gallon tank. FitzHenry advised that a pressure washer has been donated to CASI. The estimated cost of a 3,000-gallon water tank and pump, including installation, is approximately \$2,500.00. A second 3,000-gallon tank would cost an additional \$1,100.00. While a City Hall Building is desirable, FitzHenry stated his first priority would be the water catch system.

Jim Ezell stated that he continues to pursue building sponsorships that could help in this regard.

Jim Stateczny stated that there are three ways in which we spend money: 1) for the day-to-day operation of CASI, 2) improvements to the Ranch, and 3) we give money away. We have money set aside for the Great Peppers' Meeting and for the Life Membership Fund. Primarily when we have excess funds, we are looking at paying down the debt to the Life Membership Fund or making improvements at the Ranch.

FitzHenry asked how payments were made to the Life Membership Fund to pay down the debt.

Stateczny stated that at the end of the calendar year a determination is made as to the amount that can be paid. In calendar year 2003, \$10,000 was paid back on the debt. The General Fund has not been able to contribute as much money to the National Scholarship Fund, since we are trying to pay back the Life Membership Fund. Every dollar that goes into the National Scholarship Fund must go for scholarships; we do not and cannot borrow from it. Administrative costs for this program are paid from the General Fund. We have always told our sponsors that the money they contribute will be used strictly for charity or, in the case of the Ancira pavilion, for improvements to the Ranch.

Ezell stated that he'd like to see an Estate Program established whereby if someone passes away that he or she could leave some donation to CASI for use of improvements at the Ranch.

Taylor stated that he will be entertaining bids for port-a-cans and trash removal this year.

FitzHenry reported that the road crew he was negotiating with will not be using the CASI site, however it is possible they will stage equipment there. If that occurs, we will receive approximately \$200 a month during the project.

Renee Moore stated that several Great Peppers had asked her what had happened to the Water Well Fund. Moore researched the Minutes and at the Memphis Great Peppers' Meeting in 1996, a motion was made and passed that the monies in the Water Well Fund be placed in the Life Membership Fund.

Stateczny stated that there currently is \$30,000 in the Life Membership Fund with \$30,000 owed to the fund, which is being repaid.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:55 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

Taylor will research costs of a water catch system to determine if it could be purchased cheaper if the work were done by CASI members.

**MOTION** by Jimmy Taylor to implement the water catch system and construction of the City Hall building. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous.*

### **Old 320 Update**

Robert Schrade stated he continues to pursue individuals who will donate their Old 320 spaces back to CASI. There are approximately 22 individuals on the waiting list.

Alan Dean reported that he had had inquiries as to the qualifications to run for Alcalde.

Schrade stated he would provide that information to Dean.

### **National Scholarship Program**

Hut Brown was absent but will be mailing his report to the Board. He did report that over 100 scholarship applications were received.

Jim Stateczny reported that sufficient funds exist in the National Scholarship Fund to provide for the Terlingua High School Valedictorian Scholarship, which is funded by the General Fund, and five additional scholarships. We also have one additional scholarship due to the \$4,000 anonymous donor.

### **TICC 2004 – Assignments**

The assignments for TICC 2004 were discussed.

Ken Rodd and Jimmy Taylor will determine the wristband colors for use this year and will work the gate. Wristbands will be distributed beginning on Monday.

Taylor will inventory the festoon banners to determine if enough are available for this year. We normally have 1000 feet on hand.

Mel FitzHenry requested that VIP wristbands be retained and an additional wristband be added for sponsors.

After the Great Peppers' Meeting, it will be determined who will coordinate the bean cookoff.

Rodd and Taylor will coordinate the beer concessions. It was determined that beer will again be sold on Tuesday and Wednesday. FitzHenry will obtain the beer licenses.

FitzHenry suggested that the beer sponsor be contacted to acquire some of the 12-pack Styrofoam coolers for TICC. These could be packaged in the beer concession with beer and ice and sold as a package. Plastic cups are also needed in the beer concession.

Taylor is again responsible for the Calcutta board, as well as being the head show judge. Connie Schrade will assist Taylor with showmanship judging. Taylor will also be responsible for the port-a-lets, trash removal, and signs.

Dean will coordinate the cooks' meeting and first timer's reception, as well as being responsible for gate volunteers, insurance, schedule of events, and stage announcements.

FitzHenry will handle the entertainment, Fire Department, keys for the buildings, medics, propane, contestants' shirts, telephone, and trophies.

Ezell is responsible for sponsorship, stage banners, ice, and vendors.

Moore will handle the Board photo, Memorial Board and plaques, and message board.

Williams and Moore are in charge of CASI store concessions.

Moore, Ezell and Rodd will produce and distribute press releases.

McGarity is responsible for the poster, raffles, t-shirt design, raffle stoves, and the Winners' Circle. Volunteers will be sought to sell stove raffle tickets.

Pierson will handle registration.

It was determined that information will be provided from the CASI concessions area this year rather than having a vendor operate an information booth.

Taylor, McGarity and Schrade will research their areas to determine if radios can be obtained at a comparable price and report at the July Board Meeting.

FitzHenry advised that he had received a letter from Ed Petschelt, Bexar County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol, requesting that CASI consider: 1) Increasing the patrol on Thursday to 2:00 a.m., 2) Adding an additional mounted patrol team on Friday from 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., and 3) Adding an additional mounted patrol team on Saturday from 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. The proposal for TICC 2004 is \$8,775 in addition to a \$200 horse expense.

**MOTION** by Mikie McGarity that the proposal for TICC 2004 security submitted by the Bexar County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol be approved. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous.*

There was a brief discussion regarding mailing of the Old 320 packets. It was determined that the Alcalde will provide Bill Pierson with the Old 320 Certificates for mailing with the qualifier packets.

Dean stated that he had received inquiries relative to the posting of the finish levels for chili at TICC on the website. It was determined that the numbers of those advancing from the preliminary table, but not making the final table, will be posted on the website and, additionally, the posters prepared at TICC that bear those numbers will be mounted on the Calcutta Board.

FitzHenry requested that Jimmy Taylor investigate purchasing bussing carts for clearing tables in the pavilion area.

#### **Great Peppers' Meeting 2004 – Baltimore, Maryland**

Alan Dean reported that plans are ongoing for the Baltimore Meeting. A website will soon be established to provide information. A free shuttle will be provided from the airport to the hotel. Rooms will be \$100 per night plus tax.

#### **Great Peppers' Meeting 2005 – San Angelo, Texas**

Sammie Plant reported that plans are being made for the 2005 meeting in San Angelo. The Holiday Inn will be the host hotel with a room rate of \$76.00. Plant requested CASI approval for her Pod to sell jerky at TICC to raise funds for the Great Peppers' Meeting.

**MOTION** by Ken Rodd to allow the San Angelo Cookers Association to sell jerky at TICC for the purpose of raising funds for the 2005 Great Peppers' Meeting. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous.*

### **Old Business – Computer Update**

Jim Stateczny reported that new computers have been purchased for Garnier Albus and Bill Pierson. Renee Moore will take Pierson's old computer. All Board members will not be receiving computers.

Stateczny stated that the new CASI tally program is ready for release.

### **Old Business – Marshall Cookoff Protest**

Alan Dean presented videotape from a show team at a Marshal, Texas Cookoff who protested the show team results. The contention was that the winners only had booths, the show judges were not anonymous, and the person who received first place show entertained the show judges after judging was completed.

After reviewing the videotape and discussing the matter, it was determined that the protest would not be honored. The show team will be sent a letter, as will the Great Pepper and Regional Referee for this cookoff.

### **New Business – SOT Pod Proposal – Packet Fee**

Greg Martin, Great Pepper of SOT Pod, distributed a letter emailed to all Great Peppers relative to the packet fee increase to \$25. The proposal is that on multi-day cookoffs the main cookoff will be charged the \$25 packet fee, with cookoffs occurring the day before or after and associated with the main cookoff only being charged a \$5 packet fee. Martin advised that of the responses he received, 90% were in favor of this change.

Renee Moore stated that she felt there was a misconception in the manner in which the money received for the packet fee was to be spent. Moore felt that an article needed to be written to appear in the CHN and *Terlingua Trails* educating the members as to the reason for the increase.

Jim Stateczny reported that the increase to the packet fee was proposed in an effort to not place the burden of increased funding to CASI on the cooks, but rather on promoters.

Mel FitzHenry stated that two separate presentations were made at the Great Peppers' Meeting with regard to the proposed packet fee increase. It was discussed in both forums and a vote was taken in favor of increasing the packet fee. This is not a subject that the Board can address. The Great Peppers can address this as a rule change at the San Angelo Great Peppers' Meeting.

### **New Business – Grind at TICC**

Alan Dean received a request that the Board consider using grind only at TICC.

Mikie McGarity stated that on several occasions a rule change has been considered at Great Peppers' Meetings to require only chili grind at all cookoffs. The rule has never passed.

Renee Moore suggested that an article be run in the *Terlingua Trails* surveying the membership in this regard.

Mel FitzHenry stated that this was not a decision for the Board or Great Peppers to make, but a decision to be made by the membership. The Board runs TICC and there is no rule that stipulates the type meat to be used. If there is sufficient membership interest in this, a rule change can be considered at the 2005 Great Peppers' Meeting.

#### **New Business – Identification at TICC**

After a brief discussion, **MOTION** by Bill Pierson that photo identification may be required at TICC in order for a contestant to receive their judging cup at registration. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous.*

#### **New Business – Georgia State Cookoff**

Renee Moore advised that the Georgia State Cookoff was discussed at the February 2003 Board Meeting with regard to the awarding of expense money to the winner and their subsequent non-attendance at Terlingua. At the 2003 Georgia State Cookoff, in Moore's presence, the Regional Referee advised the promoter that CASI rules do not allow for payment of expense money in advance of TICC. The promoter was given the option of 1) attending TICC and awarding the winner the expense money, 2) forwarding a check to the Regional Referee or a CASI Director for awarding to the Georgia State winner at TICC, or 3) presenting payment to the Georgia State winner after proof was presented of their attendance at TICC. There were no Georgia cooks present at TICC last year, and it cannot be determined if the Georgia State winner was given the expense money or not.

Moore requested that the Executive Director mail a letter to the promoter advising of the CASI rules in this regard.

#### **New Business – Request for Funds Terlingua Girls Little League and Terlingua Youth Club**

Mel FitzHenry stated that the Terlingua Girls Little League has requested funding from CASI to attend the Girls Little League Tournament in Odessa.

FitzHenry advised that the Terlingua Youth Club has taken over the Big Bend Medical Clinic building and is seeking funding for supplies.

Jim Stateczny stated that since we are a national society, what we do in one area we are required to do in another. We already provide a lot of funding in the Terlingua area.

Mikie McGarity stated that it's one thing to give to the schools, but we have to be very careful when we start donating to particular interest groups.

Alan Dean advised that Keith Karaff, Houston Pod, has already started a fundraiser for the Terlingua Youth Club.

Dean suggested that an article be written for the *Terlingua Trails* advising the membership of these needs.

#### **New Business – Vendor in Spectator Area**

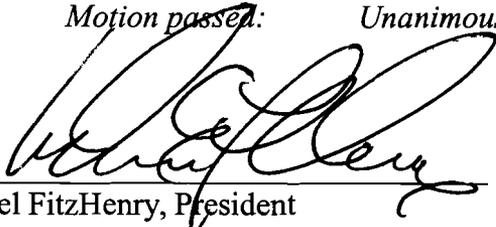
Mel FitzHenry reported that Scott Simpson is the individual who has been bringing in the flatbed in the spectator area, and Mr. Simpson has verbally requested that he be allowed to expand his operation. He has been advised to submit his request to the Board in writing. It was determined that Mr. Simpson does need to pay a vending fee, and his request will be reviewed when received.

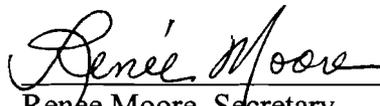
#### **New Business – Date for Summer Board Meeting**

Mel FitzHenry requested that the Board consider the dates of June 5, June 19, July 10 and July 17 for the summer Board Meeting and provide him input.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **MOTION** by Jim Stateczny to adjourn. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

  
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Mel FitzHenry, President

  
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Renee Moore, Secretary