

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

**JULY 17, 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  
Dorothy Williams, Director  
Alan Dean, Executive Director

Also in attendance:

Hut Brown, Scholarship Chairman  
Robert Schrade, Old 320 Alcalde

President FitzHenry welcomed all Board Members.

**Approval of Minutes of February 14, 2004 Meeting**

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell to approve the February 14, 2004 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

**Ratification of Board Action**

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell to ratify the Board's action of approving PayPal for Internet membership. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell to ratify the Board's action of approving a 32-ounce judging cup for TICC. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

The President stated that advertising of the new cup size should continue in the *Terlingua Trails* and on the CHN.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Jim Stateczny submitted the 2003 Tax Statements and Supporting Documents for the Board's information.

Stateczny advised that a non-profit organization would normally be required to pay taxes on unrelated expenses such as the cell tower and materials revenues. However, pending Board approval, if CASI states in the tax supporting documentation that all cell tower and materials revenues will be permanently restricted for use exclusively at the Ranch, we won't be taxed.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, we have to be very careful how we accumulate capital and report it to the government. There are three types of capital – partially restricted, unrestricted and permanently restricted. If we permanently restrict funds and express a bona fide purpose, we'll be in good shape.

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell that all revenues received from the cell tower and dirt projects be restricted for use at the Ranch only. The motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

Garnier Albus reminded the Board that this is the slow income time of the year. Expenses should be closely watched until TICC.

### **Membership Report**

Mikie McGarity presented to the Board an updated Membership Report reflecting total membership of 1,583. McGarity expressed concern that while membership totals are as high as ever, the majority of these are new members and not renewing members.

The President asked what contact was made with those whose membership is about to expire.

McGarity stated that two reminders are sent. She further stated that there is merit in changing the membership term to an anniversary date renewal.

Ken Rodd asked how this would affect Pods and also the credentials for the Great Peppers' Meeting.

The President stated this would have no effect on the Pods, but Pod Officers would have to keep their membership current.

Jim Stateczny presented the new CASI database that will soon be available to all members on the website. This data will also allow the Membership Chairman to print a monthly listing of those members whose membership will be expiring. It will also enable members to enter the site to check for points accrued, cookoffs attended at which they placed, and many other options. While they can view the information, they will be restricted to limited input. It will also enable promoters to check on possible cookoffs in conflict with a date they've selected.

McGarity asked when this would be available.

Stateczny stated very quickly.

### **Sponsorship Report**

Jim Ezell reported that last year's sponsorship for TICC averaged out to \$40 per CASI member. It's very important that we get the sponsors to attend TICC, and it's just as important to show them what their dollars are doing.

Ezell announced that sponsors to date are Ancira, Glazier's, Corona, Budweiser, Miller, Bruce Foods, TX Lottery, Ms. Renfro's, Lajitas, and HEB Foods.

Ezell reported that HEB Foods donated a \$2000 smoker for raffle on National Scholarship Day at TICC with all proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund. HEB is also providing crackers, cheese and other condiments.

President FitzHenry asked how the raffle tickets and money would be handled.

Ezell stated that all raffle ticket stubs and funds will be forwarded to Garnier Albus. Garnier will bring the ticket stubs to TICC for the Friday drawing.

Jim Stateczny stated that Ancira would like a sign identifying the pavilion to be mounted in the area between the two concession windows. They would also like for the flags on the front of the building to fly straight rather than at an angle.

Stateczny asked that the membership be advised that any cookoff related requests or questions for Ancira be directed through him.

FitzHenry stated that any contact with sponsors should be through the Sponsorship Chairman. An article should be prepared for the *Terlingua Trails* and CHN in this regard.

Ezell reminded everyone that TICC sponsors are just that – sponsors for TICC. They don't owe CASI or any other cookoffs anything.

### **Tallymaster Report**

Bill Pierson reported that as of July 17, there have been 399 cookoffs, and a total of 791,000 cups of chili judged. There have been 301 cooks qualified and 114 show teams. There are two delinquent cookoffs at this time: Georgia State and Augusta, Arkansas.

The President complimented Pierson and Dorothy Williams on the handling of circumstances that sometimes are very difficult.

### ***Terlingua Trails* Report**

Jim Stateczny reported that the *Terlingua Trails* can now be published from anywhere in the world. Everything goes directly to the printer, and they handle the whole operation including mailing of the newspaper. The email list for the *Trails* continues to grow, however some cannot receive it due to the size.

Stateczny stated that based on previous Board discussions, Debbie Turner was here to address the Board.

Debbie Turner stated she would like to clear up some misconceptions based on her original discussion with Mr. Stateczny. I want no control of the *Terlingua Trails*; I would only be the middleman. CASI would have no say in the publication of the *Goat Gap Gazette*.

Ms. Turner felt certain that her printer could produce the *Terlingua Trails* for the same price as CASI is now paying. Before I can go to my printer and really talk about this, I would need to know the guidelines and specifics of the publication.

Ms. Turner continued that there have been comments that some don't want the CASI sponsors to see what is printed in the *Goat Gap Gazette*. The *Goat Gap Gazette* is for everyone and the items they wish to submit. Unless a submission is something negative against a certain person, it is allowed.

A *Goat Gap Gazette* subscription is \$20, and CASI members only pay \$15 for their membership. I could not give the CASI members the *Goat Gap Gazette* for the \$15. One possibility is that the *Terlingua Trails* could be done as a center section in the *Goat Gap Gazette*. If a CASI member wanted both the *Trails* and the *Goat Gap*, they could pay the \$5 difference and receive both. There have been questions as to how many CASI members are *Goat Gap* subscribers. As of March 2004, 400 CASI members also subscribe to the *Goat Gap Gazette*.

I'm not looking to make money but to help the cooks. Ultimately this is a business deal even though I wouldn't make a profit from it. I don't make a profit from the *Goat Gap Gazette* either; it's a labor of love.

Turner stated that it's now up to the CASI Board to decide what to do. Since this would be a business deal, I'd need a signed agreement from the CASI Board stating what the conditions would be, what would be expected of me, and the time period involved. That's not to say that if I did something wrong, I couldn't be fired.

On a personal basis and from a newspaper standpoint, there's a lot that goes in the *Trails* that really doesn't need to be there, and it's adding a lot of additional expense.

After a brief discussion, **MOTION** by Renee Moore that Ms. Turner be provided information she needs to present a proposal to the Board to be acted upon at the Great Peppers' Meeting. Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous.*

The President called for a brief break at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

### **Public Relations Report**

Ken Rodd reported that there has been increased interest from TV and radio outlets. Rodd stated he's been working with Pods on press release and asked if a draft press release could be placed on the website for anyone to use.

Rodd requested that the Membership Chairman provide him with the names of new CASI members, at which time he'd send them a welcome letter.

The President directed Jim Stateczny to communicate with Rodd to place a press release on the website.

Dorathy Williams advised that there is inaccurate information on the website as evidenced by the receipt of \$50 by her for cookoff packets. When she asked the promoters where they got that figure, she was told from the CASI website.

Stateczny stated that the packet information on the website is correct, however a link to the website could be incorrect.

FitzHenry directed Stateczny to determine where the misinformation was coming from and to cut the CASI link to it.

Bill Pierson asked if it was determined where the misinformation was coming from if the provider should be given an opportunity to correct it.

Stateczny stated that several providers have been asked repeatedly to correct misinformation and have failed to do so.

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

Alan Dean thanked the Board for staying current with emails. Dean complimented Bruce and Honey Jones on their travels this year on behalf of CASI.

CASI continues to have problems with officiating at cookoffs; more certification sessions are planned.

Dean stated there are many problems with show results, specifically the listing of the winners. Dean presented a draft Official Show Team Entrant List for use at cookoffs in addition to the Cook Entrant List.

After a brief discussion, Moore stated this would require a rule change. It could certainly be added as a recommended form but ultimately the Great Peppers would have to approve the form.

The President stated this was important enough to bring forward to the Great Peppers' Meeting in Baltimore.

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell that the Official Show Team Entrant List be placed in the packet as a new form with a rule change to add such to be considered at the Great Peppers' Meeting in Baltimore. Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

Dean asked that this form be placed on the website for use.

Dean advised that the Georgia State Cookoff was placed on advertising probation and also sent written notice from the Board because of past discussions relative to awarding of prize monies rather than reimbursement of TICC expenses.

Dean stated the Cookoff was held in April and over a month later, Bill Pierson received a check from a Georgia radio station with no other paperwork. It was determined that the check represented the entry fees for the Georgia State Cookoff. Contact was made with the Regional Referee, who advised that an Area Referee from Florida officiated at the cookoff but gave all the paperwork to the radio station promoter to submit.

The Regional Referee contacted the local radio station and tried to contact the promoter. The promoter is unwilling or unable to produce the winners' list or entrants' list.

Renee Moore advised that she attended the cookoff and wrote down the winners as they were presented. Moore has her copy of the winners' list, which could be provided to the Regional Referee for signature.

Dean stated that if the winner's list was provided and signed by a CASI official, then the Rules Committee could take action regarding this cookoff.

Dean reported that another ongoing problem is the State of Nebraska. The Nebraska Pod's strategy was to send a representative every other year to the Great Peppers' Meeting so they would stay affiliated with CASI. The Nebraska State Championship was just held with 26 cooks present. There were 2 preliminary tables off which they took 7 chilis to the final table. They never contacted a CASI official, and the Cookoff Referee was not a CASI member. The Rules Committee will be addressing this cookoff.

Dean presented to the Board a letter from Jennifer Uhrin, CASI cook, requesting to host the Indiana State Chili Championship. The previous sponsor no longer desires to support this cookoff.

Dean further advised that Vic Powell was the CASI official in Alaska but has moved back to Texas. An ICS event was held for several years but the promoters wish to have a CASI event and they had discussed such with Vic. They were not aware that Vic had moved and assumed all the cookoff requirements had been satisfied.

Dorathy Williams informed them last week that the cookoff could not be sanctioned as the packet was not requested and advertising was not done. They thought they were working with a CASI official, and now we're telling them they can't have a cookoff. They now have to go back to their sponsors and tell them why the cookoff will not be sanctioned. The promoter's question to me was "Why should we be affiliated with CASI?"

Mikie McGarity asked if the Great Peppers rather than the Board should consider both these issues.

Dean stated that we're talking about approving the promoters of state championship cookoffs. The Board recently approved the Delaware State Championship.

McGarity stated she had a real problem awarding a state championship in Alaska where there is one CASI member.

Jim Stateczny asked that Hut Brown be allowed to comment on this as past Executive Director.

The President recognized Hut Brown

Hut Brown stated that in the past when there was a request such as this that was in a timeframe not convenient for the Great Peppers to vote, the Executive Director made a call to the President, and if he concurred, it was approved.

**MOTION** by Bill Pierson that the Alaska and Indiana Cookoffs be recognized as the State Championships per the proposals presented by the Executive Director. Motion was duly seconded.

Jim Ezell stated that it was important to remember that this would not be a permanent award, but rather based on their running the cookoffs by the CASI rules.

Moore asked if Pierson would consider a friendly amendment to his motion to require Great Peppers' ratification of the approval of the Alaska and Indiana State Championships.

**MOTION** by Pierson to amend his motion to include Great Peppers' ratification of the approval of the Alaska and Indiana State Championship Cookoffs. Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed.*

*McGarity - Nay*

Dean advised that he is working on delivery of the CHN so it looks the same to everyone and attachments can also be provided. He's considering possibly placing it on the website.

Dean asked for an estimate on the value of the City Hall building and the water tank for insurance purposes.

Jimmy Taylor advised that the City Hall building would be valued at \$28,000 and the water tank at \$1,000.

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

Jimmy Taylor reported that there would be a 5% increase this year for portalet and trash services for a total cost of \$16,798.00. The RV servicing will increase from \$15 to \$20.

Taylor thanked Mel Neff for the assistance in the installation of the water tank. It's full of water, which is good news.

The President advised that we do have a pressure washer, and Kathy Killingsworth has a pump like we need that can be purchased for approximately \$350.00.

Moore advised that the pump purchase was approved at the February Board Meeting.

Taylor advised that the City Hall building is complete except for the interior, which will be finished in August.

McGarity and Taylor unveiled the sign to be placed on the City Hall building.

The President presented a slide show of the excavation work being done at the Ranch. FitzHenry explained what happened when the dozer removed dirt and vegetation from the area where the North Texas and Tennessee cooks usually park. FitzHenry took full blame for the accidental dozing.

Ken Rodd advised that he had visited the Ranch and was shocked at what he saw. He expressed concern about the large rocks in the new parking area in the spectator area.

FitzHenry stated that the area will be smoothed and leveled and all large rocks removed.

Rodd advised that the road needs to be widened where it drops across the creek to the spectator area. Two vehicles can't pass in this area, and people walk on the road, which makes it dangerous.

FitzHenry stated that he would talk to the contractor about it.

Taylor advised that there were several used tin horns that could be used to make a creek crossing.

FitzHenry reported that his information was that they had already been sold, but he would check.

The President recognized Tom Williams, who reported that the Texas Department of Transportation has a concern about the creek flow in that area and probably wouldn't approve of the crossing.

The President requested and received unanimous consent of the Board to deviate from the published agenda to allow Bruce Jones to address the excavation work at the Ranch.

Bruce Jones presented the following statement to the Board:

I would like to thank the Board of Directors for extending me some time to express my concern about the ongoing construction at the Rancho de los Chisos. My wife, Honey Jones, & I visited the Ranch on June 30<sup>th</sup> and saw firsthand the construction in progress. We did see many improvements such as the new "City Hall" and the expansion of the cooks camping area. We also saw some projects that concerned us. We were taken aback and shocked by the size of the dirt-mining project in the spectator's area. But what most concerned us was the stripping of vegetation from top to bottom down a large portion of

the hillside just to the right of the Main Stage. Apparently this was done during the expansion of the cook's camping area. It is my understanding from talking to Mel FitzHenry that the Contactor on site mistakenly removed all the vegetation in the process of enlarging the camping area. This is an open wound on our land. We have participated in TICC every year since 1992 and have enjoyed camping on site not only to be with our friends in chili but to enjoy the beauty of the desert. This cut down the hill can be seen from most vantage points on the Ranch and it is an ugly site. I fear that due to the lack of any plant life that the first rain will cause erosion, which will further infect this wound, and leave gaping ruts down the hill. Future rains will only expand these ruts. A very ugly scar is sure to be left for all to see for years to come. If this was a mistake by the Contractor, the Contractor must be held liable. We have all made mistakes in our life but as a consequence we have all paid for them. I am not an engineer but I am positive that the Contractor employs some highly qualified engineers that can plan a remedy to their mistake at no cost to our Organization. Soil stabilization is a priority and returning the natural desert plant life is a must do project. I realize that the hillside cannot be returned to its preconstruction state but something must be done. If the Contactor is unwilling or unable to correct their mistake I am also sure that they carry liability insurance, which would include property damage. And our property down this hillside is damaged. If this Board of Directors concludes that a natural revegetation will heal the damage I ask you to reserve a major portion of the funds received from the Construction Company's mining operation on our land for possible future repair of the hillside. If the hillside needs repair within a year at least the funds will be there. Please make every available effort to return the desert landscape to its natural beauty. Do not let this wound on the Ranch become infected only to leave a lasting scar. Do not disappoint the membership of the Chili Appreciation Society International. Thank you for your attention. Respectfully submitted for your consideration

The President thanked Mr. Jones for his concern and stated the Board will do what it can. He stated he'd like to turn the clock back and not have it happen, but it did. FitzHenry will talk to the contractor to try to work out an agreement to get the area back to its previous state.

McGarity asked how much CASI was receiving from this project.

Stateczny advised that CASI should receive approximately \$10,000 cash and \$40-50,000 in dozer and land work.

McGarity asked if the surfaces will be completed and in good shape by TICC.

FitzHenry stated that the contractor was given a date of October 15 to have the site and all areas in which they were working cleaned up, fixed up, covered, smoothed out, and leveled. That's the cut-off date, and we'll make sure it happens.

McGarity stated that FitzHenry, as President, has been given the responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Ranch. She asked that the Board and the membership be regularly updated on the progress of the work.

FitzHenry stated that the decision for this work to be done was made by the Board to increase the safety factor, increase parking areas, and generate some funds for future Ranch improvements.

McGarity stated that her concern was that people be kept informed so this didn't become like a kindergarten story that got bigger & bigger with every telling.

Taylor asked if it would be possible to get a copy of the contract.

FitzHenry stated that he had the contract with him. With regard to requirements of the contractor, it reads: "Upon termination of this agreement, buyer will restore all fences, gates and other improvements on the real property that were used by the buyer to a condition comparable to their condition at the beginning of the term of this agreement reasonable wear and tear excepted."

FitzHenry advised that this is a standard materials contract that can be bent any way you want. They'll try to bend it their way; we'll bend it our way. Thus far, they have been very accommodating and done many things we've asked that they didn't have to do. I fully intend to put this information out to the entire membership on the CHN and in the *Terlingua Trails*.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

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

The Board reconvened in regular session at 1:10 p.m.

The President requested and received unanimous consent of the Board to deviate from the published agenda to allow for several presentations to CASI.

The Irving Elks Lodge presented a check to CASI in the amount of \$1,000. The Original Texas Open Committee presented a check in the amount of \$500 to be placed in the City Hall fund. The Original Texas Open Committee also presented a check in the amount of \$2,000 to the National Scholarship Fund. Nick McGarity, on behalf of the Top of Texas Pod, presented a check in the amount of \$558.49 for the City Hall fund.

The Board expressed appreciation to all the contributors.

### **Old 320 Update**

Robert Schrade reported that there would be an election for Alcalde/Alcaldessa on Friday at TICC. Thus far, Connie Schrade and Bob Steinle are running for the position.

Schrade asked that \$250 be appropriated for the drawing for those cooking in the Old 320 on Saturday at TICC.

Stateczny advised that funds were appropriated for that purpose.

### **National Scholarship Program**

Hut Brown advised that the quality of applicants for scholarships this year was totally outstanding with 100 applications received. Five scholarships were awarded with the 6<sup>th</sup> going to the Terlingua High School Valedictorian. There currently are six 1<sup>st</sup> year students, five 2<sup>nd</sup> year students, four 3<sup>rd</sup> year students, and one 4<sup>th</sup> year student participating in the scholarship program. The status of one of the previous recipients is unknown, and one joined the Air Force.

Brown encouraged memorials to be established and cookoffs be designated for contributions to the National Scholarship Fund.

Brown will have Scholarship Applications available for the Pods at the Great Peppers' Meeting.

### **TICC 2004 – Assignments**

The assignments for TICC 2004 were discussed.

Alan Dean presented the General Information Pamphlet for Board review.

Jim Ezell stated that ice should be listed with no sizes. He asked that the Sponsor Listing be verified before final printing.

Renee Moore stated that ice should be listed as available Tuesday through Saturday.

Dean asked about the times for operation in the spectator area.

Ken Rodd advised the concession would be open Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Open House should also be shown as Thursday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Rodd asked if the case price for beer could also be shown.

Ezell stated that this couldn't be determined until sponsors were determined.

President FitzHenry stated that it could be stated, "case prices are available".

The President recognized Robert Schrade, who asked if the Show Team Registration was necessary on Saturday morning. Schrade reported that it has caused problems in the past.

After a brief discussion, FitzHenry stated that it is necessary to offer Saturday morning registration. The Show Judges should be advised to discreetly check with you on Saturday after 9:00 a.m. to determine if there are additional entries.

FitzHenry stated that propane gas would not be available on site. It can be obtained at the Study Butte Store.

Bill Pierson asked about the availability for volunteers for Registration.

Rodd reported that he had been gathering volunteers for the spectator area concession stand and the front gate but would include a request for additional volunteers for registration.

Dean reported that he had received an email from Bob Horan, who advised that since we sell liquor that there is a legal notice that needs to be posted with regard to firearms. This information will also be placed on the General Information Pamphlet.

Moore stated that she would prepare laminated handicap placards, Right to Refuse Service, CASI Official, and Firearms Notice signs.

FitzHenry reported that the entertainment would be Three-Ring Rodeo, Jason Andrew Carell, and one additional performer.

FitzHenry advised that “shuttles” should be removed from the General Information Sheet.

Mikie McGarity presented the proposed TICC poster to the Board. It was accepted as presented.

Dorathy Williams advised that the Terlingua School would again sell the extra chili.

Dean asked that Williams review and make necessary corrections to the local services section of the General Information Pamphlet.

Dean stated the Piney Woods Pod would be promoting the Bring Out the Dead costume contest, and the Houston Pod would coordinate the First Timers Reception.

Dean stated he would publish information to the Pods reminding them that they must request permission to conduct raffles at TICC. To this point, the only approved raffles are those that are Terlingua School-sponsored and the HEB grill. The San Angelo Cookers Association will be selling jerky at TICC to raise money for the 2005 Great Peppers' Meeting.

Moore asked if speakers could be placed under the pavilion to enable those sitting in that area to hear stage announcements.

Taylor stated it would be very difficult to do.

FitzHenry stated that the band would be asked to turn their speakers toward the pavilion area for the Friday & Saturday announcements.

It was reported that McGarity, Schrade and Taylor had not found radio vendors. Moore will contact the Houston vendor to order the radios as in the past. Additional days will be paid as a result of Moore's travel schedule.

Ezell will obtain styrofoam coolers from the beer sponsors for concession sales.

FitzHenry stated he would check on getting an ice dolly fabricated and also on fabrication of a bussing cart for the pavilion area.

FitzHenry reported that Wendell Rankin will again paint the 1<sup>st</sup> place chili and 1<sup>st</sup> place large and small show stoves.

McGarity reported that there has been a donor for 2 additional stoves for 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place chili. She will see that they are painted.

The President called for a brief break at 2:30 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

FitzHenry announced that Diane FitzHenry had decided that this would be the last year she will coordinate the judges for TICC. It was determined that Ms. Fitzhenry will search for a replacement for Board consideration.

FitzHenry advised that there is a definite need for all areas handling money to have direct oversight by a Director at all times to include the 2 beer booths, the front gate, and the souvenir concessions. FitzHenry directed Moore to develop a schedule of these areas and two-hour time slots in each. Each Director will be expected to work for at least 2 hours in these areas on Friday and Saturday when not needed in their assigned area.

A discussion was held regarding armbands and their distribution. Moore is to laminate a placard to be placed at the front gate for information in this regard.

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

Alan Dean stated that that the Great Peppers' Meeting information will go out this week to all delegates. Rooms must be booked by August 9, as that is the day the room block will be released.

### **Unfinished Business – Ranch Use Procedures**

Renee Moore presented a draft of the proposed forms to be used for those wishing to use the Ranch.

After a lengthy discussion, **MOTION** by Jim Ezell that the Guidelines for Completing the Application for Use of Rancho CASI de los Chisos and the Application for Use of Rancho CASI de los Chisos be adopted. Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed.*

*Abstain – Jimmy Taylor*

President FitzHenry presented to the Board a request for use of the Ranch that had been received from the Texas Mountain Bike Association. FitzHenry reminded the Board that this group used the Ranch last year for the Desert Sports Bike Event, and the event resulted in CASI receiving good press and some funds we wouldn't have had otherwise.

It was determined that Moore would forward the adopted forms to the Association for their completion and submittal.

The President requested and received unanimous consent of the Board to deviate from the printed agenda to allow Mavis Nelson to address the Board relative to Regional Referees.

### **New Business – Regional Referees – Mavis Nelson**

Mavis Nelson stated there were problems associated with Referees. Some Pods are not making good choices for referees. There needs to be a better way for Referees to be assigned to cookoffs; Referees need to be schooled and know their area boundaries. Nelson suggested there should possibly be a District Referee over the Regional Referee. The problem is not with someone else refereeing in another area, but with the Referee not coordinating the action with the Referee assigned to the particular area. In some instances, promoters have been dealing with the same Referee for several years but contact should at least be made with the Referee for the area in question. Nelson stated that she attended a cookoff at which the Referee walked up and said that it was a laid back cookoff that doesn't go by all the rules; you know you have a problem when that occurs.

The President recognized Bruce Stewart.

Bruce Stewart stated he was the Regional Referee for DAM Pod. There have been nine cookoffs this chili year in his Region; three have contacted him. There needs to be some sort of Referee Guidelines or Code of Conduct to ensure contact is made when someone intends to referee a cookoff in someone else's area. Stewart advised that the rules say it is the responsibility of the cookoff chairman to contact the CASI official Referee responsible for the location that the cookoff is held. If the rule is adhered to as it stands, there won't be a problem. We don't want to run the cookoff, but we want to do what we're supposed to do as Regional Referees. If a cookoff has problems in my Region, I'll get the call and I may or may not know what happened. Stewart emphasized that Referees attending larger cookoffs need to do just that – referee. It was suggested that a

list of Regional Referees including locations and telephone numbers be provided with the CASI packet. Stewart also suggested that the CASI packet envelope be stamped “open immediately” to ensure the promoter is aware of all the requirements.

Nelson stated that a Referee who does not follow the rules should be warned the first time and suspended if problems occur again.

Alan Dean advised that if a Referee is reported for an infraction, they are sent a letter and the Rules Committee determines the outcome. However, letters are not sent when the Board is not made aware of a problem.

Dean stated that there are plans for more Certification schools to be conducted and, hopefully, all Referees will become Certified CASI Officials.

### **New Business – Bylaws Proposals**

Alan Dean reviewed the proposed changes to the Bylaws.

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell that Article 14.03 be deleted in its entirety. Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell that Article 11.02 be changed to read: “Dues for annual members shall be payable upon the anniversary date of joining CASI (i.e., payment in October – renewal due October 1). Memberships will be valid for one calendar year from point of payment. Current/renewing members will have a one-month period to renew. Notification to member, whose membership is about to expire, will be issued one month prior to anniversary date. All Pod Officers, Regional Referees and Area Referees will be current on their dues for the Pod credentials to be approved for seating at the Great Peppers Meeting. These individuals must remain current during their tenure in office.” Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

**MOTION** by Jim Ezell that Article 13.01 be changed to add a subsection (h) to read: “Submit evidence of 13.01 (a)-(d) on an annual basis as part of the Great Peppers Meeting credential process. This evidence should be sent in time to meet the stated deadline.” Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

A brief discussion ensued relative to the proposed amendment to the Bylaws at Article 5 as it relates to increasing the Board from 11 to 13 members.

Renee Moore stated that she felt this amendment should be tabled for consideration at the Great Peppers' Meeting to enable delegate input on this matter.

**MOTION** by Mikie McGarity to table consideration of the amendment to Article 5 of the Bylaws to the September 10 Board Meeting in Baltimore. Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

Moore reported that McGarity and she have gathered sufficient recipes to consider publishing a CASI cookbook.

**MOTION** by Mikie McGarity that Moore proceeds with the CASI cookbook project. Motion was duly seconded.

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

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

*Motion passed: Unanimous*

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

---

Mel FitzHenry, President

---

Renee Moore, Secretary