

**MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL GREAT PEPPERS MEETING
OF THE
CHILI APPRECIATION SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

September 11, 1999

Minutes of the Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc.'s Great Peppers Meeting held in St. Charles, Illinois on September 11, 1999.

The meeting was called to order by Mel Fitzhenry, President. Preston Shaw, Secretary, recorded the minutes.

The following Directors were present:

Mel Fitzhenry, Director
Preston Shaw, Director
Jim Stateczny, Director
Johnye Harriman, Executive Director
Harvey West, Director
Myrl Coultas, Director
Cindy Reed, Director
Jim Ezell, Director
Jimmy Taylor, Director
Vickie Childers, Director
Mike Strack, Director

Reports

Johnye Harriman, Executive Director, gave the Credentials Committee report: 54 current pods present and 7 pods absent. (*See attachment Schedule A*)

Cheryl Pierson of the Chilini Pod gave a welcome to the 1999 Great Peppers meeting.

A welcome to Illinois was given by Tom Johnson, Illinois State Representative.

Mel Fitzhenry, President, addressed the group and welcomed all delegates and guests to the meeting.

• Motion was made by Guy Smith to approve the minutes of the prior meeting. Seconded by Pat Irvine.

Motion passed: (Unanimous)

Johnye Harriman, Executive Director, gave a report of 5 new pods requesting CASI affiliation and sanctioning.

The pods were:

- Florida on the Panhandle
- North of Waco Pod
- Pod on the Pedernales
- Route 66 ChiliHeads
- Pepe's Pod

• Individual motions were made and seconded to seed the five new pods.

Motion passed: (Unanimous)

There were 70 recognized voting delegates to the meeting.

Rancho CASI de los Chisos Report

Jimmy Taylor

A report was given by Jimmy Taylor that acknowledged the support and assistance by many CASI members, with a special acknowledgement of help from John Caffey, Richard Hinds and Mel Fitzhenry.

Improvements at the CASI site include:

1. Electrical problem corrected in the judging area.
2. Calcutta area has been improved.
3. Banner and directional signs have been designed and constructed at the entrance and on the highway near Stude Butte.
4. A new guard house and ticket sales booth has been constructed.
5. Revisions to the memorial board are under review.

OLD 320 Report/Alcaldesa

Pat Krenek

A report was given by Pat Krenek, Alcaldesa.

Each cook is encouraged to cook on an OLD 320 site. If they do not own a site, open sites will be marked on the site locator board. Over 200 cooks were in the OLD 320 site in 1998.

Many spectators inquired about chili samples and plans are being made to allow a volunteer group from the Terlingua area to sell the excess chili.

An OLD 320 monument is being planned with a raffle to pay a portion of the cost of the monument.

TICC Report

Mel Fitzhenry

A report was given by Mel Fitzhenry regarding issue to be aware of at TICC.

All contestants, judges and spectators must co-operate and park as conservatively as possible. Janie Bauer suggested an article be put in the Terlingua Trails for parking guidelines.

All individuals should be aware that no reserved parking spaces are allowed. All parking is on a first come-first serve basis. Parking for automobiles and tow vehicles should be off the roads to allow emergency vehicles access to all areas.

Extra chili and early round chili can be made available for sale if a local volunteer group would help with coordination.

Volunteers are needed for all events and activities; we encourage each of you to contact a director and donate your spare time to the event.

Roadside trash pick-up will be at 10:00 a.m. on Friday.

Christmas gifts are needed for children ages three to eleven. Do not wrap the gifts. Donations of wrapping paper, tape and ribbon are requested. Bring all gifts to the CASI trailer.

The school also needs color crayons, pencils, poster board and notebook paper.

Tallymaster Report

Elton Homesley

Report is *attached (Schedule B)*.

A report was given by Elton Homesley detailing the cooks and cook-off statistics for the current cooking year. Also presented was the memorial list of chili friends that will add 18 names and correct two names in 1999.

Elton also expressed his thanks to Norma Homesley for help with Tallymaster duties. He stated that Johnye Harriman, Jim Stateczny and Debbie Turner are also valuable resources for the Tallymaster.

Membership Report

Mike Strack

Mike Strack presented the Membership Report of 1357 members with graphics indicating the state or country of membership. (See attached)

A challenge was also made for each cook-off held in the new chili year to enroll one new member. This one effort would add over 30% to our membership rolls.

Sponsorship Report

Jim Ezell

Jim Ezell reported on the new sponsors, and set 3 goals to take CASI into the next millennium. The goals are:

- A. Recognize our sponsors.
- B. Create Terlingua area involvement.
- C. Produce an impact event for the cooks and sponsors.

New sponsors must be secured each year and each event or project should be developed into a sponsored event.

A Friday night cook's party can be created at TICC in the future with the proper sponsors. Each member is a potential sponsor contact.

The local community of the Terlingua area has shown a desire to participate in the TICC event and we need to research ways to make their involvement possible.

A major entertainment attraction should be our goal for TICC.

Our 1999 TICC sponsors are:

Gold Level (\$10,000)

Jose Cuervo

Lone Star Beer

Silver Level (\$5,000)

Ancira Motor Homes

Pendery's

Goat Gap Gazette (one full-page CASI page every month for the next year)

Event Sponsors

Louisiana Hot Sauce - Buffalo Wings Sponsor \$2,000

Bush Beans - Bean Cook-off Sponsor \$1,500

Redman Tobacco - Calcutta Sponsor \$1,000

CASI is a small elite organization of chili cooks, however we also are the national sanctioning body for chili cook-offs and we should capitalize on our national image.

Terlingua Trails Report

Myrl Coultas

Myrl Coultas reported that approximately 2200 copies of the Terlingua Trails were printed each month with 1400 copies being mailed to members and the balance being sent to cook-offs for the public.

Two thousand five hundred dollars in advertising has been sold this year. Five hundred fourteen packets have been sent to cook-off promoters this year. The CASI Hot Line has received 440 faxes, 623 messages and over 1500 e-mails this year.

An old copy of the Terlingua Trails was distributed as a comparison to the current publication.

Chilicity Report

Cindy Reed and Vickie Childers

Cindy Reed presented the 1999 TICC poster and Vickie Childers presented the new passports. It is one of their goals to build a relationship with the Chile Pepper Magazine.

Newspaper contacts along with a data base of newspaper publishers are being researched to allow CASI to provide accurate and prompt information about our events, membership and chili in general.

Esquivel and Fees Jewelers in Houston has created a line of chili pepper jewelry and will be donating a raffle item for TICC.

The new passports will be available soon and distributed to various welcome centers.

Vickie Childers discussed a video production company who will be attending TICC this year to produce a PBS Broadcast for Cook-off America to be aired in early 2000.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Stateczny

• Motion: A motion was made by Preston Nickle to suspend the order of business and move the Financial Report until after the noon recess. Seconded by Robert Bell.

Motion (Passed) Aye - 37 Nay - 18 Absent - 4

Unfinished Business

Al Austin of the Houston Pod asked that all nominations for the Chili Hall of Flame be received by their pod prior to October 12, 1999.

Robert Bell reported about the CASI Knife sales and that 25 knives were unsold. Each pod is encouraged to sell one knife.

Alan Dean reported the Mason-Dixon Pod had developed a cook-off check list and that all Great Peppers were encouraged to review the list and respond back to Dean as soon as possible.

• Motion: A motion was made by Dee Lubker to recess for lunch. Seconded by Sue Caffey.

Motion (Passed) Aye - 64 Nay - 1

Treasurer's Report

Jim Stateczny

Preston Shaw gave an audit report. The audit included review of the 1998 transactions of revenue and expense from daily operation of the CASI Corporation, the 1998 TICC event and the 1998 Great Peppers Meeting. The audit did not identify any improper transactions.

Jim Stateczny then discussed the financial report as submitted to the Great Peppers. CASI is becoming self-sufficient and the organization, in the near future, will be able to pass on any additional sponsorship money as charitable donations or to Rancho CASI de los Chisos for improvements.

Pat Irvine asked the Treasurer to discuss TICC and verify that the 1998 event realized a profit of only \$1,300. She also asked if the donations were recorded as TICC expenses. Jim Stateczny acknowledged that the 1998 TICC event realized only \$1,300 profit. However, the donations received from sponsors or contributions made to Terlingua area groups were not included in the TICC summary.

Robert Bell discussed the TICC gate fee and questioned how many years had it been since the gate fee was increased to \$15.00. A dual gate fee was established a few years ago of \$10.00 and \$15.00, and then one gate fee was set at \$15.00.

Proposed Rule Changes

Proposed Rule Changes: (see attached)

Site Selection for 1999/2000 Great Peppers Meetings.

☛ Motion: A motion was made by Glyn Gaines to hold the 2000 Southwest Open on Memorial Day weekend at Wichita Falls, Texas. Seconded by Vickie Childers.
Motion (Passed) Unanimous

☛ Motion: A motion was made by Larry Burruss to alter the structure of the 2001 Chilympiad event, with that event to be held on the third weekend of September. The name of the new event would be Chilympiad, North American Open Chili Championship. The Chilympiad organization will take the necessary steps to void their federal service mark to the Texas Men's State Chili Championship. The Chilympiad organization further asked that the new date for the Texas Men's State Chili Championship be at least 30 days prior to the new Chilympiad event. Seconded by Bruce Stewart.
Motion (Passed) Aye - 45 Nay - 4 Abstain - 15

☛ Motion: A motion was made by Colleen Wallace to hold the Canadian International Open on May 20, 2000 at Cloverdale, B.C. Seconded by Robert Bell.
Motion (Passed) Aye - 66 Nay - 0 Abstain - 3

☛ Motion: A motion was made by Janie Bauer to hold the D.C. Open on October 23, 1999 in the Washington, D.C. area. Seconded by Dick Dietos.

Prior to the vote, a motion was made by Elton Homesley to waive the 12 point in one sponsoring state rule for one year. Seconded by Pat Jones.

Motion (Passed) Aye - 65 Nay - 0 Abstain - 3

The original motion by Janie Bauer was voted on.

Motion (Passed) Aye - 65 Nay - 0 Abstain - 3

☛ Motion: A motion was made by Bill Garbutt to hold the Four Corners Regional on August 19, 2000 in Alpine, Arizona. Seconded by Di Hughes.

Motion (Passed) Aye - 64 Nay - 0 Abstain - 2

☛ Motion: A motion was made by Preston Shaw to hold the Mid-South Regional on June 3, 2000 in Memphis, Tennessee. Seconded by Elton Homesley.

Motion (Passed) Aye - 66 Nay - 0 Abstain - 2

➤ Motion: A motion was made by Preston Shaw to waive the 15 cook-off rule for one year and hold the Tennessee Men's and Women's State Championship at Columbia, Tennessee on October 16, 1999. Seconded by Ray King.

Motion (Passed) Aye - 67 Nay - 0 Abstain - 1

Site Selections:

2000	Great Peppers Meeting	Denver, Colorado
2001	Great Peppers Meeting	Houston, Texas
2002	Great Peppers Meeting	None

Other Business

Preston Nickle asked for discussion on the procedure for notifying cook-offs and promoters of rule violations. Eight cook-offs were not advertised properly and cook-offs on probation were not notified. Johnye Harriman stated the Board was aware of the problem and was researching ways to properly notify of these violations.

Robert Bell asked for an up-date on the CASI Connection lawsuit. Mel Fitzhenry gave a recap of the facts surrounding the case. An independent arbitrator appointed by the courts in Arizona had ruled against CASI (there would be payment required by CASI to settle the case) and the Board of Directors was currently negotiating to reduce the proposed settlement. In exchange for our payment we would receive all CASI logo inventory immediately and can make this merchandise available for sale at the 1999 TICC event.

Lyman Wilkinson gave a report on the Denver 2000 Great Pepper Meeting.

Election of Directors: Cindy Reed and Guy Smith were elected to 3-year terms. Jim Stateczny and Jimmy Taylor were elected to 2-year terms.

A brief recess was called to allow the Directors to vote on the 1999-2000 Board Officers.

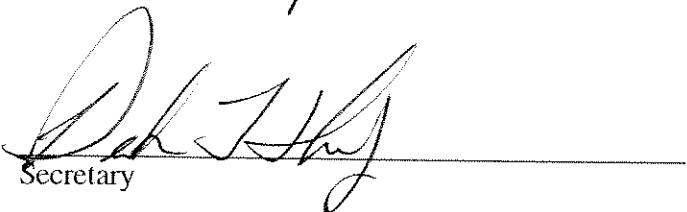
The officers elected were:

Mel Fitzhenry	President
Jim Ezell	Vice President
Preston Shaw	Secretary
Jim Stateczny	Treasurer

There being no further business, the meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and carried, was adjourned.



President



Secretary