

Minutes of the
Great Peppers Meeting
CHILI APPRECIATION SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
JR Wells Park
Gonzales, Texas
September 11, 2021

President Kris Hudspeth called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Kris Hudspeth said, "America was established with thirteen original colonies. There are 13 stripes on our flags. A few weeks ago, we lost 13 service personnel in Afghanistan. Today marks the 20th anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attack on New York with the American Flight 11 and United Flight 175, the Pentagon with American Flight 77 and United Flight 93 which was crashed in St Holford, Pennsylvania. At this time, I would like to ask everyone that is a United States active duty or Veteran to please stand. (claps) There are only two defining forces that have offered to die for us. Our Lord Jesus Christ Savior died for our soul and the American soldier died for our freedom. I ask that you observe a moment of silence this morning in memory of those we lost in Kabul and the memory of those affected by the tragedy of 9-11-2001.

Patti Myers Jones led with an invocation.

Kris Hudspeth led the organization in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Keith Karaff called Cecelia Rivera and Brandi Rather to the front to give the credential report

This year the Credentials Committee completed the review of Pod Annual reports. Here are the findings and recommendations:

The CASI Executive Director has been notified that the following Pods have dissolved:

Piney Woods Pod
High Desert Pod
Alamo Area Pod
Pod on the Pedernales

The credentials committee has found that one Pod is in violation of Article XIII, Section 2.e which states:

e. Submit evidence of Section 2(a)-(d) to the CASI Executive Director as part of the Great Peppers' Meeting credential process. This evidence must be sent in time to meet the stated deadline.

The Credentials Committee recommends that Yavapai Chili Society be placed on probation and not seated at the 2021 Great Peppers' Meeting.

The Credentials Committee found that five Pods did schedule their Pod cookoffs but due to COVID related issues were not able to hold them. By acting in good faith and striving to fulfill their commitment per the CASI Bylaws, it is the recommendation of the Credentials Committee that the following Pods be seated at the 2021 Great Peppers' Meeting:

BELCH Pod
Indiana Pepper Pod
Capital Pod
Rose City Pod
Thousand Trails-Lake Whitney

Having reviewed all submitted reports, all remaining Pods have fulfilled the guidelines of Article XIII and recommend them for seating at the 2021 Great Peppers' Meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Brandy Rather

Cecilia Rivera

Dianne Stimson

2021 Credentials Committee

Nancy Hewlett, Secretary, called the roll and informed that a quorum was present.

Keith Karaff said the minutes and the financials were in a separate envelope from last year.

A motion was made by Ron Barnes of Cowtown to accept the minutes of the 2020 GPM Meeting, seconded by Patti Myers Jones of Rose City Pod. Motion passed.

Kris Hudspeth gave the following message: Eight years seems like a long time, but the truth is, it goes by in the blink of an eye. The weekend of the Great Peppers Meeting marked the end of a journey that started eight years ago in Arlington. Elected as one of, if not the, youngest CASI Directors, to less than 6 months later being elected as the youngest Vice President, to being the youngest CASI President at the age of 32. There have been too many people that said, "you're too young, you're too new, you don't have enough experience, you're too influenced by family, you're too influenced by friends, etc.". From the bottom of my heart, thank you. I am not being sarcastic either. You gave me motivation each and every time things got tough. I thrive on chaos and hate; it is what drives me to step up and lead. Those phrases, that venom, it drove me to be great every single day, and in turn push those with me on the Board to the same standards. Eight years ago, enough Great Peppers saw that spark in me to elect me to the Board and bring that fire every day. There has been a lot of things happen in the eight years that I have been on the Board: We were broke, like broke, broke, a negative operating budget, negative TICC, and less than \$50,000 in our Life reserve fund, we lost our 501(c)3, we lost our insurance coverage, we lost a major sponsor, and then we dealt with a virus that shut down the entire world. That is a lot of negatives that impacted our organization. Within two years, an operations budget was set, the TICC budget was set, and our Life Reserve fund was restored to \$100,000. We also regained our 501(c)3 status, found insurance coverage, replaced the lost major sponsor, increased our Friends of CASI program to new heights, implemented new financial controls, saw the creation of the CASI branded chili mix, added additional sponsors, increased the Life Reserve fund, and weathered the pandemic all while maintaining financial stability!! Not every decision has been popular, or well supported by some of you. As a Director, our mentality should never be, what is going to be the popular decision that is going to get me brownie points. That is what caused all of the negative financial issues. We allowed the entitlement attitude to influence spending, and we were running out of money. The mentality that was fostered

over these last eight years was to make the decision that was best for CASI as a whole. If you are doing right by CASI, the membership will understand...they may not like it, but they will understand. Over the last 18 months, there have been many of those decisions that have been made. Moratoriums, point changes, rolling over points, not reducing points, no printed Trails, moving the GPM, etc. In fact, I have no doubt that some of these things will be beat on a little more. I can see both sides to a lot of these things, but tough decisions had to be made. Personally, I didn't like having to make some of these decisions, but it was the right thing to do for CASI. This is where I turn it back on y'all. Don't like what the Board is doing, or you don't agree with how a director is performing. DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! Recruit new candidates to run for the Board, hold them accountable, ASK A TOUGH QUESTION AT THE ROUNDTABLE, COMMUNICATE WITH THE BOARD, don't wait until you have an audience at the GPM to build your ego to address the board, show up at the damn meeting and be on the agenda. As Marshall Mathers once said, "Nowadays everybody wanna talk like they got something to say, but nothing comes out when they move their lips, it's just a bunch of gibberish" It's like everyone forgot how to grow an organization or raise money. You want CASI to bring back the Trails? Hold more than your one required cookoff to be seated as a pod, join Friends of CASI, help recruit new members, help recruit new corporate members, HOLD A COOKING FOR CASI COOKOFF. DO SOMETHING other than complain. I realize there are some that are doing absolutely everything they can to help grow this organization. Those are the ones that should be praised. They are the ones that you should seek out to learn from. These other pods that are only hosting their one pod cookoff but causing a ruckus because the organization is evolving and changing and having to cut things out aren't doing anything to help raise more money, qualify more people for TICC, or growing membership. While we are talking about growing membership, I saw a meme the other day that said "The quickest way to kill a hobby is the veterans to be total jerks to the newbies. If you want things to flourish you have to invite and encourage new folks getting into it". I immediately sent this to Keith and said this rings so true for CASI. I cannot tell you how many new cooks I have seen come into CASI excited and willing to jump in with both feet, only to turn around and quit in less than three years because of the negativity and jerks. I know that there are a number of people that would be willing to turn their POD over to a new Great Pepper, because you have been GP for multi years, or even multiple times for multiple years, and there are some pods that are no longer with us because they can't find that next person to step up. If you are not out recruiting, being welcoming, or even beating down pod meetings by being negative to the Board, you are pushing people away! Set up a CASI Information booth at your cook-offs and explain what we do and why we do it, welcome the new cooks, help them with their recipes, BE EXCITED WHEN THEY SHOW UP, BE EVEN MORE EXCITED WHEN THEY PLACE OR BEAT YOU! If you and your pod are already doing these things.... THANK YOU! You are helping GROW CASI. If you are doing the bare minimum, GET OFF YOUR ASS AND HELP GROW THE ORGANIZATION THAT YOU "SAY" YOU LOVE. It's not that hard people!! Take your role as a leader of a local chapter seriously. The membership numbers are not falling because of Board decisions or who the President of the Organization is, the membership numbers are falling because the Great Peppers have been apathetic and unwilling to adjust. Just like every other business or event, we have to compete for people's time, attention, and money. I love the VFW, American Legion, and Elks Lodges that we support. I believe in their missions just as much as I believe in the CASI mission but be honest with yourselves. Are you getting a ton of public to these events? Are they fun and enticing people? In 90% of the events that I have been to, the answer to both of these is NO. Look for places that are already holding a crowd, where people want to hang out on the weekend, and try hosting cook-offs there! Just because you aren't at the Legion, VFW, or Elks doesn't mean that they can't still be your

charity of choice!! Find local festivals and create a relationship with them, the festival draws the crowd, we feed them lunch through the judging process, AND we get to teach them about CASI.... what a novel concept. Before I close my speech with my laundry list of thank you's, I leave you with a few final thoughts. This organization is going to grow or fail based on your collective efforts. Hold each other accountable, make chili fun again, nobody wants to go watch 15+ people stand in a parking lot and stir a pot of chili. They want to be entertained. If you can't entertain them, partner with the entertainment! Be the change that you want to see in the organization. Devote your time and talents to help it thrive! The other is to go out every day and BE GREAT. This is something that I tell my girls every day: BE GREAT today and every day. As I have explained to them "Don't take this at face value, this is deeper than just striving for greatness. Every single day is your opportunity to be a leader, a motivator, an innovator, role model, or torch bearer." I challenge each of you to BE GREAT and an ambassador for CASI. Every person you meet while wearing the logo, or at a cookoff could be the next cook, TICC Champion, Director, or Sponsor of our organization. Now to the "thank you's": To the Knight family – You have been a constant positive force in my life from beginning and it continues to this day. That coupled with the dedication and leadership that you have given CASI over the years has been invaluable, both for me and the organization. Yes, we have had disagreements and butted heads a few times over the last 8 years, but you have been there for help, guidance, and as a sounding board for the last 8 years. You have never turned down a request for help and have never pushed your opinion or ideas on to me or others on the board. Thank you for being available, honest, and loving. The fear of failing CASI was always at the forefront of my mind, fear of failing CASI pioneers like y'all was number TWO! To Tim and Connie Collier – Connie you are an absolute Saint, and not just because you are married to Tim. You have supported, helped, motivated, and stood steadfast behind the decisions that CASI has made. You have been a source of council and inspiration. Tim, being able to learn from you as a new CASI Director helped tremendously. You taught each of those who served with you that it was ok to lose a fight and still be friends, and that you have to make the best decision for CASI, public opinion be damned. The constant pressure that you applied to every financial aspect of CASI was welcomed and helped make sure that we stayed on track. Thank you both for your friendship and mentorship. To Pat Krenek – You are another to fall in the category of a person that has never said no when I asked for help. Be it with handling Finals Table decorations, to assisting with shirts, embroidery, Old 320 historical information, running roundtables, etc., you have been willing to lend a hand. You are a great asset to CASI and have been a tremendous asset for Keith and me to lean on! To Candy and Jerry Ford – I found the coolest brother and sister-in-law I could have that was not directly related to me when I met you two. You were there for me in the infancy of being a CASI Director as friends and helped me through one of the toughest periods of my personal life. I can't ever thank you both enough for the support, laughter, friendship, and love that you have given me. To Past Directors – by my count, I have served with around 30 different directors over the last eight years! While that is a lot of people, there also has been a lot of consistency on the Board. Each and every Board has had unique challenges of the time, but one thing is certain, CASI does not continue to move forward without volunteers willing to step forward and take on increased roles in the organization. To those that have helped carry the CASI torch to this point, thank you...thank you for making CASI better. To those that will join the board, both today and in the future: CASI needs you. Your ideas, time, talent, and leadership will be needed as the years move forward. I hope that you will get as much out of serving CASI as I have. Well, wishes for the Board – To the new, incoming board: continue to push the organization forward. Make your decisions for what is best for CASI as a whole, solicit feedback from the entire organization, and continue to improve. Communicate with the

membership directly and continue to GROW CASI outside the state of Texas. I will always be available to help anyone of you at any point! I have saved the toughest three thank you's for the end: To Keith Karaff – To say that we have become like minded and similar would be the world's largest understatement. The mental connection that you and I have formed has been downright scary at times, but has been one of the biggest benefits to our relationship as President and ED. I have served on this Board with three Executive Directors, and all three were exactly what was needed during their terms. You have done a magnificent job over five years of leading, creating, communicating, and relaxing the Organization. Your preparation, attention to detail, and creative flair have been very valuable, and you know exactly when each of them is needed. When you joined the Board five years ago, we were friends, and I was hoping that our personalities would mesh well enough for us to be effective. After five years, we are no longer friends, but brothers (Michael and Shelley might have another name). You pushed me when I needed it, played devil's advocate, and allowed me to twist and tweak your "I've been thinking" moments in their infancy to give you the ability to create them from an idea and turn them into greatness. I could not have asked for a better partner or right hand over the last five years, and I am extremely thankful that you stuck around for this last year. I know that at moments you wanted to throw in the towel and felt like it was a horrible decision, but your influence and guidance were needed. Keith, I was better because of you, and CASI was definitely better because of you. Thank you, Michael, for sharing him with all of us for the last 5 years. To the Tribe – I started this journey 8 years ago with mom as my support system. Ask any of those who have sat up here, you have to have a support system to survive this gauntlet. As the years have gone on, our Tribe has grown by leaps and bounds. Without MY PEOPLE, eight years would not have happened. You have stuck with me, supported me, defended me, and dealt with all forms of frustration, elation, and the mental breakdowns. Thank you is not strong enough. I love each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart. To Shelley and my kids – The last eight, four, and two and half years have provided different experiences for each of you. My initial motivation to running for the Board was to help ensure that CASI would be around for you to grow up in and have the experiences that I had as a chili kid. As I have always told my girls, it is important for you to have a hobby and an outlet. It will keep you active, provide relief from your stresses, and give you a community. Find something that makes you happy and helps you serve those that are in need. Just because this chapter is over in our lives, does not mean that it will go away. CASI is family, and you will always have the connection to many of these people. Most have seen you grow up, much like they saw me grow up. Geez, some of y'all are getting OLD. ;-)

I love each of you more than you will ever know, but more than I love you, I can say that I am proud of each of you and who you are. You make my life complete!! To end, I say thank you again to the CASI membership. There aren't many groups that do what you do, EVERY weekend of the year. This organization is truly special, across the world. If you have not taken the time to get outside of your area to cook, or outside of your state, I encourage you to do so. Every CASI cook is like minded and is drawn to our motto and mission, and you find some of the best hospitality in the world at CASI events. Stay motivated, keep recruiting friends and family, and continue to embrace the motto of Chili, CHARITY, and Fun!

Keith Karaff called Pat Krenek forward to give the Nomination Committee Report.

The 2021 Nominating Committee has received the following applications for election to the CASI Board:

One (1) Executive Director position:	Brian Spencer
Four (4) Board of Director positions:	Kathryn Cavender
	John Pierce
	Jennifer Sherfield
	Mike Whitten
One (1) Vacated Board position:	Michael Mayorga

In compliance with Article VII, section 4, of the CASI bylaws, the Nominating Committee finds that all six (6) applicants are in good standing with CASI. Their applications were submitted and received by the deadline, and all are current on their CASI dues. We find no issues that would disqualify any of these applicants.

Respectfully submitted by:

Pat Krenek, Collie Collier and Judy Russell

Keith Karaff gave the following speech:

Good morning. The day is finally here. This is my last time to stand before you as the ED of CASI. So, sit back, relax and let's get this over with. First, let me talk about this last year.

It was mainly a wait and see year, but you all know that. There wasn't much happening in the first part of the year then all of a sudden, areas started to open up and cookoffs were being scheduled again. Different parts of the country began to ease restrictions and we were happy to see this. This meant that our cash flow would restart and with positive thinking we could begin to discuss the 'T' word.

Now here we are once again...it worked...it didn't work...take this...don't take this...blah, blah blah....so much rhetoric and so much misinformation and just so much crap. But we continue and make plans for our organization, our membership and our championship.

You are going to hear the status reports throughout the day so there is no need to bring those up. I have worked over the last five years to 'guild the lily' so to speak. I am not going to go through and do a comprehensive list of accomplishments over five years. They are what they are, and they were what they were.

Over my time, for some unknown reason, I have become associated with three little words...no, not I love you.... I have come to discover these three little words would have some running for the hills, that is if they were spoken by me. But these three little words are more important than you can never know. These words have in them the ability to change...the ability to move forward...the ability become creative and imaginative...I guess if I am too be associated with anything...I am proud to be associated with these and what they have come to mean.

Change...

CASI is poised for a leap into the here and now. As we all know, CASI doesn't like change. You have to fight tooth and nail to make changes in this organization. Over the years, changes have been

implemented; some popular, some not so popular. But I learned very quickly when I came on in 2016, that this is a business, and it has to be treated as such. Yes, it is my hobby as well, but it is a business. Business decisions are tough to make and even harder to follow. But they have to be made and implemented to succeed. You have to look at outdated policies, bylaws, procedures, communications, marketing, advertising, rules...what worked ten years ago, even five years ago, no longer have a useful place and must be updated or done away with and replaced. You must keep pace with the times, the technology and the ways that information is now distributed and consumed. "Old fashioned" methods no longer work. CASI must change.

I can't remember a time when there was this big a change in the leadership of this organization. Five new Directors and a new ED. New officers on the Board. We are slowly coming out of the most devastating period in our history. We have new, energetic members that have stepped up. I am excited about the new Board. They have the ability to expand on what has been discussed and come up with new and interesting ways to promote this organization, but they cannot succeed without the membership taking on an active role in the growth and promotion of CASI.

Over the years, I tried to involve as many Pods and members as possible in events at the Ranch, on Committees, in discussions...whatever I could find that would involve as many different members as possible from around the country. Truth be told, this was like herding cats. The key word here is involvement. People are being pulled so many different ways now and getting commitments and involvement is a major issue but until they decide that they want to contribute in a different way or become more involved, there is nothing that can be done.

Someone has said that most of the sitting BOD don't have a clue about the history of CASI. While this statement was asinine when you look at the makeup of the BOD currently, this does hold true for some of the newer members. And that is not a bad thing.

This organization is 55 years old. The split happened over 30 years ago. There have been interesting and tumultuous times in the history of CASI, most of you in this room know this. A lot of the people in this room know, understand and experienced the difficult times that are now part of the fabric and makeup of not only CASI, but other chili groups as well. Friendships were lost, heated words, lawsuits...you name it, it got ugly. I have only been a part of CASI for just a little over 20 years now, but I was "brought up" so to speak on one-sided, biased information. CASI is an international organization. We have members all across the country. We all know this. Most of the members outside Texas don't care about old feuds and old history. They don't know about all the animosity with another cookoff, nor do they care. They care only about this organization. This is the group they have joined. This is the group that they promote to their friends. This is the group that they have bonded with and created lasting relationships. It is now time put all of this out of the present and future narratives.

Only you and the membership can change the public face of this organization. It is up to every single member to promote CASI. The membership must take an active role in recruiting new cooks. You cannot put all of this on the shoulders of the Board of Directors. These people that have volunteered their time, talent, efforts, imagination, creativity and let's not forget; they have accepted a financial burden for multiple years. They do this because they believe in what we do. They have a passion for CASI, just like you seated out here. These people are not here for you continuously berate, bash, criticize day in and day out. They are here to do a job. Because if you keep this up, you find yourself in the same position

you find yourself in now. No ONE WANTS TO RUN FOR THE BOARD. You have done that with your constant negativity and undeserved criticism. Why in the world would someone want to put themselves in a position to be ridiculed by those very individuals that won't get off their ass to do anything? Negative outside influences that think they know best and in reality, they don't have a clue. Individuals that believe they know exactly how things should work and have not lifted a finger to know more about the organization or volunteered. If you all are so knowledgeable and experienced, then run for the Board or keep your mouth shut. Soapbox over.....

When I started five years ago I did so to give back to an organization and people that have given so much to me. People that have become family. People that were there when I needed them. 2020 will go into the books as the year that really sucked. Sleepless nights. Stressed so tight you can bounce a quarter off your back. Indecisions about decisions. Dealing with a situation that no one has had to deal with before. There was no past to turn to. There was nothing written to help you out. You guide with what you think is best when it is all on your shoulders. You hope the decisions are right. You hope that when all is said and done, that there is still a strong, financially stable organization to come back to; and there was. Then, when you get to the end of those 6-8 months, the tongues start wagging, you get here about how awful decisions were made. How they were wrong and that they are detrimental to one area or another. I am extremely proud of the members of the Board of 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. We worked together to overcome enormous obstacles successfully. We succeeded because of you.

When I first started cooking, I had the opportunity to meet a person that at the time that would inadvertently shape my views and thoughts about CASI. Very open, friendly and you could see the passion, determination and push they had for this organization. Time passed and we became great friends and continue so to this day. In 2016 when I ran for Executive Director, I had the most fantastic surprise that Saturday. I looked up and there was my friend. I was so honored that after many years, she came to see me brought in. Several weeks ago, I asked her if she would attend this meeting. As I told her, you were there when I went in, and I would love for you to be there on my way out. And she is here. When I took on this job, I said to myself, "If I can do this job and be half as successful as Johnny did, then I did ok". Thank you, Johnny, for the inspiration, support and more importantly, being the ED that I hoped I would be because of your unknown guidance. Thank you and I love you.

There are way too many people to thank for everything over these years. You know who you are, with and without the stool and I hope you know how much I appreciate your support, friendship and understanding. You are one of the reasons that I am still standing here today.

To the Board members that I have served with over the years and to all you seated up here. I truly enjoyed my time with you all. I have been extremely fortunate over these years to work with some amazing individuals whose dedication and commitment was and still is unwavering. When likeminded people get together, that's a recipe for success and we have had fantastic years. Thank you.

I want to thank Larry Walton. Several years ago Larry began a FB page that is open and available to everyone...public and cooks. He brought together the three chili organizations in a way that no one else has. He monitors that page for unseemly comments and does not allow for any negative bashing of any of the three groups. That is not the intent of that page. It is social media being utilized correctly. I just wanted to say thank you Larry for your diligence and contribution to all the chili cooks.

I have to talk about my second spouse for a moment. I have said it before, and I will say it again. Not everyone is as lucky to get to work with and have a phenomenal connection over all these years. My time as ED was made better by the fact that we have that connection. He made me a better ED. The freakiest part was that we were so much alike in thought, action, idea and creativity. We fed off each other's passion and dedication. When we were working with sponsors, they could feel and see what this organization means to each of us on personal level. Yes, it is business...but they come away feeling more like a family member than a resource. It was a union that helped in part to push this organization into directions successfully that it had not ventured into before. Over the years, not only did we become workmates...we became better friends and that has changed into becoming family and for that, but I also couldn't have wished for anything else.

Dusty...I am so honored that I got to know you personally during these years. You are a great devil's advocate and I love you for that. I also love that you looked after me at TICC. It may be a small thing, but the "have you eaten today". No...here's a sandwich. EAT IT! I watched you do the same thing to Kris...I was family!!! I enjoyed our discussions and the point of view. I enjoyed just getting to sit, relax and visit when things were really hectic, and I needed a break. Thank you all you have done and more importantly, thank you for your support and friendship. Shelley...I can't thank you enough for your understanding, giving attitude. From the first moment, you understood the organic relationship that had developed. I am indebted to you for this and so much more. We are family.

You have been my everything when it came to me wanting to make this step. You supported me in 2010 magnifier when I ran for ED knowing that it was wrong, and the timing wasn't right, and you supported me in 2016 when the time was right. You talked me off the ledge several times so to speak. You would listen to my rant...let me get it out...you would listen to my ideas however crazy they seemed. You have been with me every step of the way. CASI owes a huge debt of gratitude to Michael because, as you all know out there, without the support and love of your spouse, you cannot do any of these jobs. UKW

Finally, to the membership of this amazing organization. I got to travel some over my years but not as much as I did this year. We have an amazing group of people around the country that participate and love CASI. They love what we do, and they love who we are. Without you, there is no CASI. Next year I get to sit out there with all of you. I am not going very far...just across the big ditch...but my hope is that all the support, trust, cooperation and dedication you have graced me with, you will continue to show your new Executive Director.

Thank you all for the ride!!

TREASURER and FINANCE REPORT

Mike Whitten, Treasurer, presented the following report.

One comment I would like to make in 2019 we paid \$20,356 for the Trails and this year we paid \$194. If you wonder, why we did it that is why. We had a tough year, but we are financially stable. If you look at the bottom line from July 31, 2021, to July 31, 2020, there is only a \$600 difference. We stayed stable even with the bad year of 2020 and half a bad year in 2021. We are still in financially good shape. It has been because of your giving and support.

CASI-Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc.

Statement of Activity

January - July, 2021

	TOTAL	
	JAN - JUL, 2021	JAN - JUL, 2020 (PY YTD)
Revenue		
300-000 TICC Revenues		
300-130 Main Bar - Taxable Sales		320.00
300-135 KF Bar - Taxable Sales		330.00
300-170 Main Store - Taxable Sales	697.00	721.60
300-175 KF Store - Taxable Sales	10.00	
300-190 Miscellaneous Income	-100.00	
Total 300-000 TICC Revenues	607.00	1,371.60
310-000 Membership		
310-200 Annual Membership Dues	6,560.00	6,157.48
310-205 Corporate Membership Dues	750.00	1,125.00
310-210 Life Membership Dues	850.00	425.00
Total 310-000 Membership	8,160.00	7,707.48
320-000 Sponsorships		
320-001 Sponsorships - Gross		
320-360 Friends of CASI	21,351.00	21,390.00
Total 320-001 Sponsorships - Gross	21,351.00	21,390.00
Total 320-000 Sponsorships	21,351.00	21,390.00
330-000 Terlingua Trails		
330-400 Advertisements	599.50	
Total 330-000 Terlingua Trails	599.50	
340-000 Miscellaneous Income		
340-500 Cooking for CASI	660.00	1,950.00
340-501 Royalties Revenue	9,980.64	8,501.76
340-515 Online Store		39.00
340-525 Cell Tower Lease Payments	4,200.00	3,600.00
340-535 GPM admin fee	350.00	175.00
340-585 General Fund Donations	461.00	2,616.84
340-586 AmazonSmile	189.45	454.75
340-590 Miscellaneous		0.00
340-591 Memorial Wall Contributions	400.00	25.00
Total 340-000 Miscellaneous Income	16,241.09	17,362.35
355-000 Cookoff Fees		
355-100 CLIF Premium per Cook \$2	7,388.00	7,022.00
355-200 GP Meeting Cook's Charge \$1	3,693.00	3,511.00
355-300 Registration Fee - \$25	3,375.00	2,750.00
355-400 Sanctioning Fee per Cook \$1	3,693.00	3,511.00
Total 355-000 Cookoff Fees	18,149.00	16,794.00
370-000 CASI Scholarship Fund Income		
370-100 Scholarship Donations	10,247.50	6,624.80
Total 370-000 CASI Scholarship Fund Income	10,247.50	6,624.80

CASI-Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc.

Statement of Activity

January - July, 2021

	TOTAL	
	JAN - JUL, 2021	JAN - JUL, 2020 (PY YTD)
390-000 Interest Income	21.17	130.88
Total Revenue	\$75,376.26	\$71,381.11
GROSS PROFIT	\$75,376.26	\$71,381.11
Expenditures		
400-000 TICC Expenses		
400-100 Band & Sound System		2,500.00
400-145 TICC Jackets		379.80
400-150 Judging Supplies		305.76
400-180 Officials & Contestants Shirts		30.25
400-217 Sponsor Appreciation	159.00	470.00
400-225 Trophy/Stove Purchase/Donations	27.91	
Total 400-000 TICC Expenses	186.91	3,685.81
410-000 Terlingua Trails Expenses		
410-300 KDT - Printing Costs		3,200.00
410-305 KDT - Parcel Post		490.50
410-310 KDT - Bulk Mail		2,221.98
410-330 Editor Computer Related Expense		194.72
410-340 Editor Supplies	194.72	
410-955 Editor Miscellaneous Expense		134.61
Total 410-000 Terlingua Trails Expenses	194.72	6,241.81
430-000 IT Expenses		
430-100 Recurring IT Expenses	5,216.51	4,723.51
Total 430-000 IT Expenses	5,216.51	4,723.51
440-000 Chilicity Expenses		
440-505 Chilicity Expenses	550.00	
Total 440-000 Chilicity Expenses	550.00	
450-000 CASI Director Expenses		
450-579 Treasurer Expenses	579.76	1,008.92
450-599 All Other Directors Expenses	949.81	1,834.20
Total 450-000 CASI Director Expenses	1,529.57	2,843.12
460-000 Membership Expenses		
460-600 Membership Expenses	550.52	405.93
Total 460-000 Membership Expenses	550.52	405.93
470-000 Rancho CASI de Los Chisos Exp		
470-700 Ranch Expenses	1,803.09	1,680.22
Total 470-000 Rancho CASI de Los Chisos Exp	1,803.09	1,680.22
475-000 Scholarship Administrative Exp		
475-100 Scholarship Administrator Expenses		274.22
Total 475-000 Scholarship Administrative Exp		274.22
490-000 Rules & Sanctioning Expenses		
490-750 Rules & Sanctioning Expenses	212.35	205.23

CASI-Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc.

Statement of Activity

January - July, 2021

	TOTAL	
	JAN - JUL, 2021	JAN - JUL, 2020 (PY YTD)
Total 490-000 Rules & Sanctioning Expenses	212.35	205.23
495-000 Miscellaneous Expenses		
495-914 Bolner's Fiesta License Expenses	50.00	50.00
495-915 Online Store		73.16
495-920 Picnic Time Expenses & Income	0.00	84.82
495-923 990 & 990T Taxes Due	38.00	
495-925 Legal & Other Expense	2,426.34	1,200.00
495-945 NSF Checks	0.00	0.00
495-995 Miscellaneous Expense	12,350.00	
Total 495-000 Miscellaneous Expenses	14,864.34	1,407.98
600-000 GP Meeting Expense		
600-110 Beer, Wine, other Hosp Suite		-315.20
600-111 Hotel-Audio or Visual rental		7,874.00
Total 600-000 GP Meeting Expense		7,558.80
700-000 CLIF Expenses		
700-160 Volunteers Insurance	585.95	549.76
Total 700-000 CLIF Expenses	585.95	549.76
Total Expenditures	\$25,693.96	\$29,576.39
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$49,682.30	\$41,804.72
Other Revenue		
890-000 Transfers between funds		
890-100 Paying Fund	-31,000.68	3,822.50
890-200 Receiving Fund	31,000.68	-3,822.50
Total 890-000 Transfers between funds	0.00	0.00
Total Other Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Expenditures		
950-000 CASI Scholarships		
950-100 CASI Scholarship Program	0.00	2,500.00
950-160 CASI/Ancira FoC Scholarship	1,000.00	
Total 950-000 CASI Scholarships	1,000.00	2,500.00
Total Other Expenditures	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$ -1,000.00	\$ -2,500.00
NET REVENUE	\$48,682.30	\$39,304.72

CASI-Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

As of July 31, 2021

	TOTAL			
	AS OF JUL 31, 2021	AS OF JUL 31, 2020 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
100000 Cash in Banks				
100100 Ranch Property Self-Insurance Fund	0.00	27,000.38	-27,000.38	-100.00 %
100101 West Texas National Bank MMA	10,000.04	10,000.30	-0.26	-0.00 %
100111 Regions Scholarship Fund	123,045.74	133,504.24	-10,458.50	-7.83 %
100112 Money Market - LMIF	104,178.82	103,255.21	923.61	0.89 %
100113 Regions Main Checking	161,919.48	150,427.36	11,492.12	7.64 %
100114 Ranch Insurance Fund	31,000.68		31,000.68	
Total 100000 Cash in Banks	430,144.76	424,187.49	5,957.27	1.40 %
102000 Cash on Hand - TICC	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Bank Accounts	\$430,144.76	\$424,187.49	\$5,957.27	1.40 %
Other Current Assets				
102100 TICC Cash Banks	0.00	0.00	0.00	
102110 TICC Main Bank	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total 102100 TICC Cash Banks	0.00	0.00	0.00	
103000 Undeposited Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Uncategorized Asset	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Total Current Assets	\$430,144.76	\$424,187.49	\$5,957.27	1.40 %
Fixed Assets				
110209 Net Office Equipment				
110200 Office Equipment	17,642.67	17,642.67	0.00	0.00 %
110205 Accumulated Depreciation Off Eq	-17,642.67	-17,522.26	-120.41	-0.69 %
Total 110209 Net Office Equipment	0.00	120.41	-120.41	-100.00 %
110219 Net Ice Merchandiser				
110210 Ice Merchandiser	2,574.68	2,574.68	0.00	0.00 %
110215 Accum Depr - Ice Merchandiser	-2,460.10	-2,230.31	-229.79	-10.30 %
Total 110219 Net Ice Merchandiser	114.58	344.37	-229.79	-66.73 %
110239 Net Sign & Plaque				
110230 Sign & Plaque	8,917.03	8,917.03	0.00	0.00 %
110235 Accumulated Depr - Sign & Plaq	-8,649.14	-8,542.00	-107.14	-1.25 %
Total 110239 Net Sign & Plaque	267.89	375.03	-107.14	-28.57 %
110319 Net Land & Buildings				
110300 Land	39,968.00	39,968.00	0.00	0.00 %
110303 Land Improvements	71,847.00	71,847.00	0.00	0.00 %
110310 Buildings	204,561.42	204,561.42	0.00	0.00 %
110315 Accumulated Depr - Bldgs	-112,356.16	-106,190.87	-6,165.29	-5.81 %
Total 110319 Net Land & Buildings	204,020.26	210,185.55	-6,165.29	-2.93 %
Total Fixed Assets	\$204,402.73	\$211,025.36	\$ -6,622.63	-3.14 %

CASI-Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

As of July 31, 2021

	TOTAL			
	AS OF JUL 31, 2021	AS OF JUL 31, 2020 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Other Assets				
190100 Postage Deposit	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00 %
192000 Trademark Fees	3,870.00	3,870.00	0.00	0.00 %
Total Other Assets	\$5,370.00	\$5,370.00	\$0.00	0.00 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$639,917.49	\$640,582.85	\$ -665.36	-0.10 %
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
200300 Accrued Liabilities - General	3,000.00		3,000.00	
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
Total Current Liabilities	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
Total Liabilities	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
Equity				
300000 Opening Balance Equity	0.00	0.00	0.00	
303000 Unrestricted Net Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00	
310000 General Op Fund Balance	316,595.43	306,187.84	10,407.59	3.40 %
320000 GP Meeting Fund Balance	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00 %
330000 Life Member Fund Balance	116,607.69	115,574.33	1,033.36	0.89 %
340000 CASI Schol Fund Balance	146,680.25	157,815.23	-11,134.98	-7.06 %
350000 CASI Liab Ins Fund (CLIF) Bal	-1,648.18	11,700.73	-13,348.91	-114.09 %
Net Revenue	48,682.30	39,304.72	9,377.58	23.86 %
Total Equity	\$636,917.49	\$640,582.85	\$ -3,665.36	-0.57 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$639,917.49	\$640,582.85	\$ -665.36	-0.10 %

The Finance Committee is pleased to announce that Debbie Dignan is once again our reviewer this year. Debbie has an accounting degree and has worked for H & R Block since 2014. Before that she was a staff accountant for a couple of companies.

She is in the process of conducting her review, but unfortunately at the time of this printing, the review is not complete and the 2020 review report will be presented to the Great Peppers as a handout at the annual meeting in September.

The 2020 990 and 990T forms were mailed and accepted by the IRS on March 29, 2021. All 1099's were completed and mailed in a timely.

Mel Fitzhenry asked about the cost of the chairs for TICC. It was explained that those were paid for by the Friends of CASI. Mike Whitten replied that it was about \$70 a chair.

Mel Fitzhenry of North of the Brazos Pod, made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report, seconded by Jimmie Rodgers of Golden Triangle Pod, **Motion passed.**

SPONSORSHIP REPORT

Kris Hudspeth gave the following report:

With COVID impacting the world in 2020, the decision was made to not pursue any sponsorship agreements last year. All sponsors were notified that we would not have TICC in 2020, and as soon as we knew about 2021 would bring, we would be in contact.

With my pending departure from the CASI Board, Jennifer Sherfield has been in the training process to take over Sponsorship for 2022. As discussions with sponsors have been taking place, Jen has been copied on all correspondence. At TICC, Jen will be formally introduced to each sponsor, and will accompany me during any sponsor engagements as I transition out.

At the time of this Summer Board meeting, we were hoping to have an update from Bolner's Fiesta by the meeting but was just notified that Mike Bolner has recently retired and there has been some shuffling of duties and they are playing catch up. At the end of 2019, beginning of 2020, there was interest from Bolner to sign a multi-year agreement, but that was not pursued due to the onset of the Pandemic. In our preliminary conversations recently, those discussions have been brought up, and I have mentioned that we are willing to commit to a multi-year agreement. At the beginning of August, we did reach an agreement with Bolner Fiesta on a three-year sponsorship contract. Bolner Fiesta has agreed to being a Gold Sponsor, as well as a Presenting sponsor of CASI through the 23-24 chili year, with first right of refusal for a new contract for the 24-25 chili year.

Kyle Adams and Richard Erwin will once again provide the funding for the chicken wings for the Wing Championship. Kyle approached me at the SWO in Wichita Falls about opening up the wing contest to anything goes, not just a fried buffalo wing. Kyle and Richard want to see wings expanded to help generate funds for the CASI Scholarship program. In talking with wing cooks, Keith, and Kyle, the idea to

split the wing championship into two categories (like we did with Salsa), was the best potential **avenue** to ensure the integrity of the Buffalo Wing contest, while providing the outlet for those that wanted to turn in other flavors/styles. In order to run a second wing contest, we would need approval from the Board, and from Southeastern Mills/Louisiana Hot SAUCE.

Which brings me to SE Mills/LHSJ...

I have spoken with Jonathan Eubans and Brad Olsen and confirmed that they will be back this year. I approached them with the idea about splitting wings into two categories and them sponsoring both under the same Sponsorship agreement and donations as in years past. They are a Gold level sponsor providing \$6500 worth of monetary donations. They have agreed to the splitting of wings and covering the prize money out of this Donations.

Renfro Foods will be back as a CASI Sponsor for the Salsa competition and providing chips and salsa for the bar area.

We have reached out to both Glazer's and L& F about beer and beer sponsorships. We have not received any donations from L&F in a number of years and do not anticipate that changing. Glazers has provided a monetary donation in addition to product; however, our representative has changed, and we have not been able to mesh schedules with our new rep.

Brewster County Tourism Council – Still unknown at this time

Constellation Brans/Woodbridge – Conversations continue

Statewide Remodeling – As many of you know, there was a possibility that Statewide would not be returning in 2020 due to a change in ownership at the end of 2019. Thankfully, the pandemic worked in our favor on this one, as it gave time for things to settle, and our Alcaldessa a change to extol the benefits of CASI and the what's/why/how we do things. With Dusty working on the new ownership from inside the company, and the lack of a Bean Sponsor, I was able to work a Sponsorship package with Statewide Remodeling to bring them back, this time as a GOLD SPOONSOR and the presenting sponsor of the Bean Championship. They will be providing a \$6,000 monetary donation, \$1500 of which will be allocated to the Bean prize money. I am still working with Statewide and the new owners on ad design and banner sizes. We are also working to get representation (other than Dusty) to TICC to present trophies AND SEE WHAT WE DO.

Lajitas will remain a supporting sponsor for CASI. Once again, they provided a discounted room block for CASI Sponsors, as well as providing comp rooms for our Band. Ron Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Don Hoy of Colorado Chili Pod. **Motion passed.**

These are our Gold Sponsors:

Glazers

Mrs. Renfro's is silver but is the presenting sponsor for the two salsa competitions.

Big Bend

Louisiana Hot Sauce, Gold and presenting sponsor of the Traditional and Open Wings

Statewide Remodeling will be a Gold sponsor and the underwriter of the bean competition.

Bolner's Fiesta will be a presenting sponsor and ABC will be back. With Statewide being the bean underwriter we want Bolner's to stay as ABC because it is utilizing the HEB Brand of chili mix and is a good promotion for us at the Ranch. Having the royalty money has helped us stay solvent. Kris asked Mike where we were right now with royalties. We give everyone who signs up for ABC gets a free box.

Mike Whitten said we have received \$9980 to date. And that is just for the last two quarters. Richard Knight and Ted Fichtl were instrumental for working that deal to get it ready to turn over to the Board. Without those two gentlemen this project would not have gotten off the ground. This has turned into a windfall for CASI.

RANCH REPORT

The Ranch report was given by Steve Herries, Ranch Manager.

After a lonely 2020, the Ranch said she is looking forward to everyone returning!

The freeze of February 2021 caused some minor damage to the plumbing from the water catchment tanks at the Judging Pavilion. We were spared any costly damage from the freeze. We have an ice merchandiser at the main bar that is not working. The electrical seems to be fine. If anybody has any knowledge of refrigeration, I would welcome your input.

The roads were in good condition at my last visit, but that was before the rains started. I will be back at the Ranch between now and the Great Pepper's Meeting and will have an update at that time.

Bids are out for all the necessities for TICC: dumpsters, ice, and port-o-potties. Once our port-o-potty vender is confirmed, I will get contact info into the Trails for those who want their own for their camp as well as clean out charges.

There will be an online auction for electricity for TICC. Tentative dates are October 1-10 with the auction ending at 6:00 pm Central time. Starting bids will be \$150 for 30A service and \$200 for 50A service. Your spot will be marked, and you must be parked in your assigned spot to use the electricity.

By the start of TICC I expect the building at the entry gate to be insulated and have a new AC unit. A new power washer is in the works as the old one has outlived its useful lifespan. Additional railing is being added in the main bar area to prevent falling.

Let me know if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

Bob Steinle of Aces Pod made a motion to accept the Ranch report, seconded by Frances Manske of Chillini Pod, **Motion passed.**

Jim Ezell brought up entertaining selling gravel. Don Hoy said that the county has been using the gravel for maintaining the roads. Kris asked Jim to write something up and give to the Board post TICC. Mel said remember to consider the relationship with the county. They should always get first.

Krazy Flats

Keith Karaff gave the Krazy Flats report.

Before I do the Krazy Flats report, Miss Krenek are you ready? Pat and her peeps are going to be handing out the ballots. They will pick up right before we break for lunch. On the ballots for Directors, you are voting for two for the three- year terms and the Great Pepper of the Year.

When Don and Diana retired in 2019, Michael and I had agreed to take over the Flats in 2020 and that did not happen. Diana has agreed to help train us on the operation of the Flats and with Michael coming on the Board I get to be the new coordinator. Plans and training have been made regarding the transition the Flats to Michael and me. We have been working with Don and Diana on all aspects of the transition. At this point Diana and I have been working on the positive karma. I have been starting the purchasing of the merchandise for the store. We have had the foresight that nothing has a date on it just in case. There are some plans in the works for the Flats this year and I have an update on the ABC contest. With Bolners coming in and legitimizing this contest we started three years ago. That contest has outgrown the pavilion at the Flats. That event is not being moved to the main judging pavilion and Kris Steward will run the judging for us. I am extremely proud that the first year we did it we had 16 entries, in 2020 65 in two categories. Bolners is underwriting the money for each category equivalent to what we do on the Friday Events. All the entry fees from ABS goes to the scholarship fund so I am proud it is legitimized as a true CASI event now utilizing the HEB product, our chili mix. And it is moving across the ditch.

Golf cart parade will be held again on Tuesday evening. Going to try Mardi Gra one more time. This year we are going to reverse the route. It will start behind the Krazy Flats Saloon and wind it's way up Naked Hill and end at the main concession. There will be a huge Mardi Gras party going on so bring your beads and best Mardi Gras. The bars will be open. Janet Hughes who was such a success in 2019 with her karaoke. She is coming back, and she will be over there on Tuesday evening. It is going to be a party.

ABC is anything but chili. You must utilize the HEB chili mix and make anyth8ing you would like. You cannot turn in chili. You can make chili but use some other way in your recipe. They are sweet and savory.

We are going to continue with the Thursday morning breakfast and Thursday afternoon happy hour. We are also looking at running beer buckets specials throughout the week using different brands of beer. We will determine that by the previous sales during the week. We will run the bucket specials on beers we believe is not selling so well.

With the popularity of cornhole tournaments we are having a cornhole tournament on Thursday. Mike Whitten has agreed to work that tournament and are still working on the details. I can tell you that Amanda here at JG Wells Park is giving me two handcrafted belt buckles to go for the first-place winners.

Some of the entry fees from cornhole will also go to benefit the scholarship fund.

To honky tonk up the pavilion I am putting up a wall behind where the band plays as a backdrop. I am hoping it will become a great place for photo opps. Groups of people can get together, and it will say Krazy Flats, Terlingua, Texas. It will be made of old barn wood.

Also going to look at installing light bars and doing some redneck lighting for the stage. They are clip on shop lights with LED lights and it is cheap. It will add pop.

Also going to look at installing four metal platforms that will be welded up because we have a new sound system. Mixer, stands, mics and all donated by Becky and Brent Allen.

Michael and I are looking forward to working in the Flats. We have some very big shoes to fill and consider ourselves blessed that Don and Diana have considered being our mentors this year. Give a round of applause to them for all their years of service to the Flats.

Ron Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion to accept the report seconded by Don Hoy of Colorado Pod.
Motion passed.

Alcaldessa Report

Due to the events that caused the cancellation of TICC 2020 this report will merely recap the GPM Old 320 Report.

The 2019 Winners of the stove drawing on Saturday were Linda McDonald and Bill Pierson.

At the Old 320 meeting Friday night prior to TICC two new members were introduced and welcomed: TJ Friedel and Lewis Garrett. The hot topic of discussion at the meeting was incorporating some of the unused show sites into the Old 320 to be used as POD sites or sites for large groups wanting to cook together. After much discussion the membership voted to not request the use of those show sites but to allow the Alcalde to do their job and help pods or groups find unused sites that are available to accommodate these groups.

Chili sales in 2019 resulted in \$600 in sales. We will discuss the use of the remaining funds at the Old 320 meeting at TICC in November. A portion of those proceeds will be used to replace supplies necessary for chili sales such as chips/ cheese/ onions, as well as supplies required to mark the 320 sites such as marking paint and flags.

The support of volunteers to work registration, old 320 marking and chili sales is necessary at TICC this year. Please sign up through Sign Up Genius to work some of the available opportunities at TICC 2021. I again would like to express my appreciation for all of the volunteers at TICC that helped mark the sites and worked during registration in 2019 and I hope to see you again this year.

Finally, I won't be running for reelection this year. COVID has impacted my company like it has many others and my job duties have increased. I don't feel that I have the time to devote my attention to the Old 320 the way it is needed. With the increase in COVID cases currently, if TICC is impacted by COVID and we are unable to attend, I will continue as the Alcaldesa until we return to TICC and can have an Old 320 meeting to vote on a new Alcalde/Alcaldesa. If you are a 320 member and would like to be of service to CASI by running for Alcalde/Alcaldesa, please let either Keith, Brian or myself (preferably all three) know as soon as possible and we will fill you in on the details.

Submitted by Dusty Hudspeth

Patti Jones of Rose City made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Bob Steinle of ACES Pod.

Motion passed.

Governance Report

Renee Moore gave the following report.

The Governance Committee is not a very liked committee. You think Governance and you think government! And none of us like the government even though I get my paycheck from the government.

This year those on the committee were Steve Herries, Dick DeiTos, John Gray, April McDonald, Keven Stovall and Nancy Draper. We thankfully only had one complaint brought to us. For those of you who do not know, if someone has a complaint, whether it is a Great Pepper, a member, a Board member, that complaint is addressed to the ED. It is then moved to the Governance Committee for consideration and discussion. The Governance committee only discusses what the issue is, no other issues or personalities are brought into it. In many cases the committee does not even know who brought the complaint forward. As I said we only had one complaint filed. It had to do with a Great Pepper Meeting issue from last year. The Board in 2020. The Board passed the following motion. Due to the effects of COVID 19 that had a number of cookoffs within a state or province that has been completely out of control of anyone in 2020. The 2019 state totals would temporarily maintain into the 2021 year under the rule 7E1 for the 2021 chili year only. The complaint that was brought forward was it would have an adverse effect on the states of Arkansas, Illinois, New Mexico and Oklahoma. It was brought forward in complaint form from one of those states. The issue was discussed, and it was the committee's decision to recommend the Board consider the complaint. As a result, the Board reversed their decision to freeze the state point totals.

Some years there are a lot of complaints but this year there was just the one. I would encourage that anyone having a complaint rather than making your complaint to your fellow chili cooks or Great Peppers, bring it forward. It can be discussed; it can be resolved, and a lot of issues can be put to rest.

I would like to thank the committee for serving.

Cindy Noe of NOB Pod made a motion to accept the report seconded by Craig Schlicke of Highland Lakes Pod. **Motion passed.**

I was contacted by Susan Dean this week and as you all know, former CASI cook and ED, passed away a few months ago. Susan wanted everyone to know that on October 3, a Sunday, from 5 to 7 pm, there would be a memorial at 290 Vinery at Johnson City. There will be music and pure Texan chili and complimentary wine to all guests. If anyone would like to speak let Susan or Bruce Pinnell know.

I would also like to thank Kris, Keith and Scotty for their service to this Board. It is not an easy job. They have all gone above and beyond in their service to CASI all these years. I personally thank them for all they have done.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Tiffany Messer reported:

Annual Membership:

With the country still being in the same form of lockdown early in the 2021 year, our exposure to the public and the number of cookoffs held were at a minimum. In February we held a one-day membership drive on National Chili Day 2021. That drive was successful with 7 new members and 37 renewals.

The August 5th Membership drive was also successful with 3 new members and 65 renewals. The new members were a mix of new chili cooks and spectators. We have been pushing the membership drive on the CASI Terlingua FNB page that the spectators monitor.

As of 8/7/2021, CASI has 506 annual members.

As always, the Pods and the membership need to continue to recruit new members but in turn, retain the current membership. I have been emailing each renewal at the first of the month that they are going to expire.

Corporate Membership

CASI Corporate Membership is 12 members, down 2 from the 2020 GP meeting. Please remember to send me any correspondence for any possible new Corporate Members and I will get in touch with them.

Lifetime Membership

We have gained 2 new Life members for a total number of 514 Lifetime members.

At this time, CASI has a total membership of 1020 members and with the Pods and the membership's involvement, we need to grow this number.

Deceased Members

All information of which we have been made aware has been updated in the CIS.

Tiffany gave an update on the counts: 121 Annual, 13 Corporate and 514 Lifetime for a total of 1035 members.

Ron Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion to accept the report seconded by Cindy Noe of the NOB Pod. **Motion passed.**

Cooking for CASI Report

The report was given by Mike Whitten.

Cooking For CASI 2020 – 2021 Chili Year

Wichita Falls, Texas	230
Victoria, Texas	500
Homosassa, Florida	135
Midland, Texas	360
Midland, Texas	<u>300</u>
Total	1525

Patti Jones of Rose City Pod made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Cindy Noe of NOB Pod.
Motion passed.

TALLYMASTER REPORT

2021TallyMaster Summary of Statistics:

To stay consistent with accurate reporting across multiple years. August 3rd is my cutoff date to have all cookoff results received and, on my desk, tallied and approved. The 2021 chili year has seen a rise in excitement as some regular cookoffs were again taking place. Then the continued ups and downs of the pandemic brought along more postponements and cancelations over the winter months. Soon the peek chili season normally seen in the spring took off like wildfire with more and more cookoff paperwork coming across my desk to tally. This kept me very busy and was a welcome sight.

We are not out of the woods yet. Although 2021 thus far has been a better year for everyone. The comeback is slow. Thank you to all those who have maneuvered the numerous challenges to hold a cookoff and provide a place for cooks to enjoy this pastime once again with our friends.

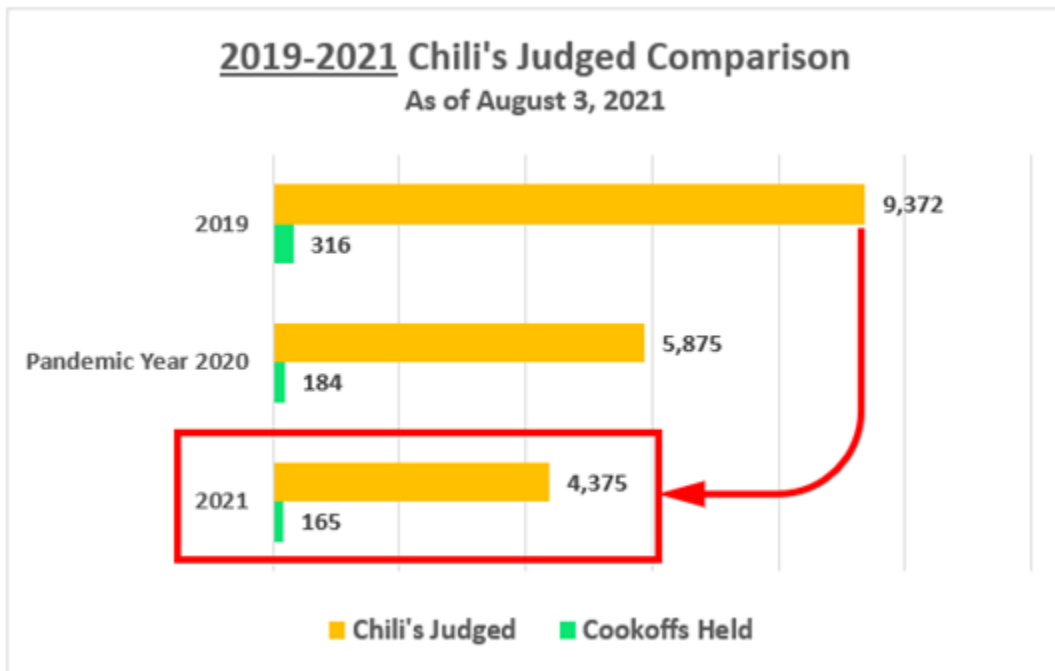
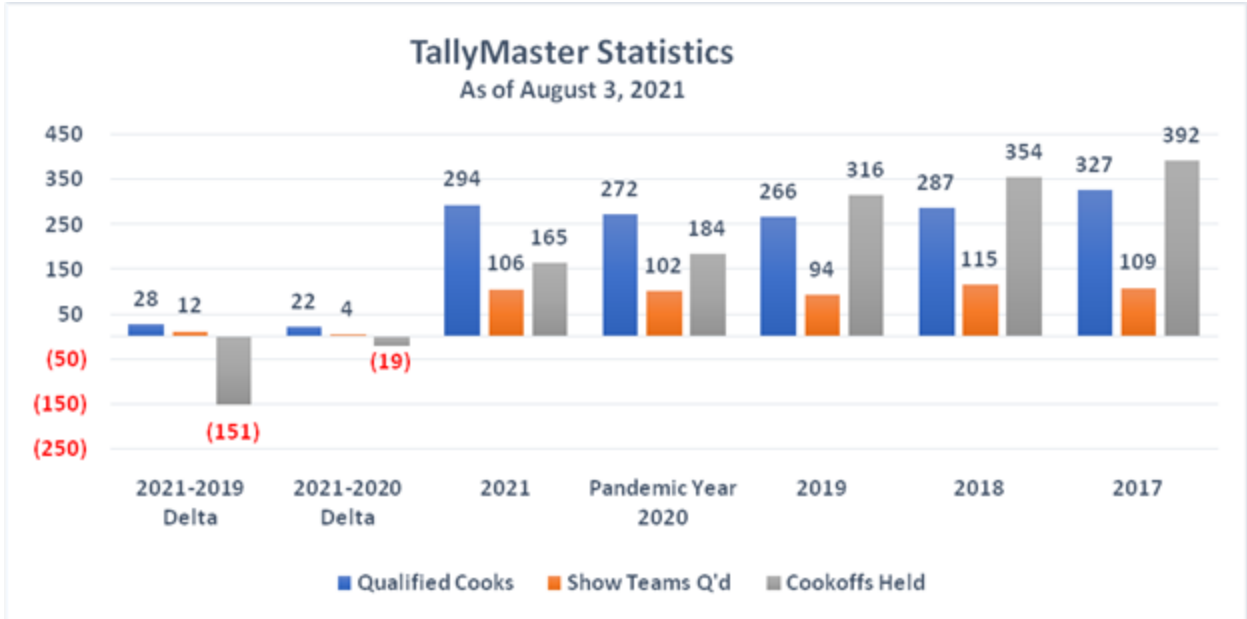
The numbers in the below tables show the cookoff stats as compared to previous years. One additional column was added to provide a comparison of 2021 comeback statistics to-date against the pre-pandemic year of 2019. As of August 3, 2021, we are halfway to matching the 2019 cookoff numbers.

On one additional positive note, there are 12 successfully held cookoffs that have not seen my desk for tallying. Some of those are recent while others are expected any day now. This is better than the four cookoff results I was waiting on at this same time last year.

Delinquent Cookoffs: None to Report

TallyMaster's Report As of August 3, 2021

	2021-2019 Delta	2021-2020 Delta	2021	Pandemic Year 2020	2019	2018	2017
Qualified Cooks	28	22	294	272	266	287	327
Show Teams Q'd	12	4	106	102	94	115	109
Cookoffs Held	(151)	(19)	165	184	316	354	392
Chili's Judged	(4,997)	(1,500)	4,375	5,875	9,372	9,821	10,782
Money Raised	(\$575,154)	(\$237,783)	\$245,184	\$482,967	\$820,338	\$823,498	\$1,148,246



Jim Ezell of SOTOL Pod made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Earl Gorham of Indiana Pepper Pod. **Motion passed.**

(150)

EVENTS COMMITTEE

James Burns gave the following report:

The Events Committee recommended approval and the CASI Board of Directors approved the following regionals:

The Southeast Texas Regional to be held in Flatonia, Texas on October 23, 2021

The West Texas Regional to be held in Terlingua, Texas on January 29, 2022.

Nancy Draper of the Houston Pod made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Michael Mayorga of the Pasadena Pod. **Motion passed.**

IT COMMITTEE Report

Director – James Burns

IT Chairman – Dave Hewlett

Web Master – Richard Knight

With the reduction and cancellation of so many cook-offs last year we did not have a lot of issues reported about the website operation. Richard continued to change the homepage landscape and Dave and I mostly reset passwords and worked the issues that were reported. We did move the current issue of the Trails to the homepage and is now available to anyone visiting our website. We also have a few minor fixes to implement to some of the applications that are used by our members.

We will continue to provide break/fix support on Weebly and CASPIO as required and strive to maintain 100% uptime on our webpages. Thank you for your support and don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email with your complaints or ideas about our website.

James Burns

Cindy Noe of the NOB Pod made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Earl Gorham of the Indiana Pepper Pod. **Motion passed.**

FRIENDS OF CASI

Nancy Hewlett presented the following report:

As of 8/01/21

Friends of CASI is a major support group for the CASI TICC event and their contributions underwrite the cost of the TICC awards. This group of sponsors underwrites the cast metal TICC pepper trophies, the TICC winner jackets, and the TICC winner chairs. Any proceeds over the cost of the awards will be used towards one Friends of CASI Scholarship, and then any remainder may be applied to cover other TICC expenses.

The benefits are:

- FOC sponsor polo shirt
- Complimentary concessions at TICC
- FOC Reception at TICC

Recognition on national CASI poster
Recognition on FOC page in the Terlingua Trails
Photo opportunity with the TICC first place winner and/or trophy
Recognition at GP meeting and all sponsor functions
Annual window decal to show pride of membership
Monthly electronic or paper copy of the Terlingua Trails
Facility Usage Fee at TICC waived
Optional: Recognition Plaque

The Friends of CASI donations to date include 33 paid donors and 10 pledges for a total of \$27,601 which is \$252 more than the \$27,349 raised in the 2020 chili year.

In Kind donations will be given to Chisos Mining Company, High Sierra Bar & Grill, Clayton & Patti Jones, Wendell Rankin and Michael Watkins.

The 2020 FOC donations were used to help donate to the Terlingua Area Charities, sponsor a FOC scholarship and pay for trophy expenses.

Word of mouth is the best way to promote the FOC program. We encourage every member to discuss the FOC program with anyone they know. If you have someone you would like for Tiffany Messer or myself to talk to, please let me know. The information to become a Friends of CASI member is also on the casichili.net site.

Patti Myers made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Michael Mayorga. **Motion Passed.**

UPCOMINGS

Nancy Hewlett gave the following report:

The Pandemic brought many changes with it, some good, most bad. As we slowly get back into the swing of life, things are coming back. I mailed fewer packets during the 2020 and early 2021 months but this is changing. More and more cookoffs are being held without incidents. I expect us to finish strong.

Remember if you scheduled a cookoff that had to be cancelled it is easy for me to just change the date and then you can proceed with cookoff. If there are changes to be made forward those to me and I will make the necessary changes.

I have noticed a jump in postal charges so if you do not need tickets or a rule book, please print out the forms that are sent with your approval email. Those forms are also located in casichili.net.

Rob Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Cindy Noe of NOB Pod. **Motion passed.**

Dave Hewlett reminded everyone that Facebook is not the place to make changes and you should contact Nancy with that information.

SCHOLARSHIP

Good morning! In 2000 at the GPM the Great Peppers created the Scholarship Fund to help promote the profile of CASI. I applaud those GPs for taking on the challenge of seeing that the youth have the opportunity to better themselves while helping our organization. When talking with people about what CASI is about, the scholarship program is always one that interests the public scholarship program is

I wish that we had had the forethought to keep a list of the many students that we have helped. Just this last year one of our recent graduates from the program has been hired to work for Space X in California as an Aerospace Engineer. Yes, he did the work, but we had a hand in getting him there and I take great pride in that.

Applications are due to the Great Pepper by January 15th every year. Very few PODS take part in getting applications. I challenge you as a Pod to visit your local schools starting now and take applications to the counselors. We only had 10 applicants last year and we really want to have a better showing this year.

We have raised monies with drawings, Friday Events Day and donations. The funds raised are earmarked for Scholarship and cannot be used for anything else.

We want to thank Brandy Reid-Rather for the great work she has done as the Scholarship Administrator the past few years.

Sherrie Davis has been named our new Scholarship Administrator. If you see her thank her for taking on this job. I know she has hit the ground running with her thoughts and ideas. We have been on the phone working on things to make this a smoother working machine.

She is helped by her committee:

Mayo Blair	Briana Gastaldello	Dusty Hudspeth
Ricky Powell	John Gray	Georgia Head
Diane Stimson	Rebel Rowlette	Darin Jester

Coming off the committee after serving three-year terms are Kevin Stovall, Krystal Jones, and Tammie Wooster. We want to thank them for their dedication and commitment.

Sherrie is starting her ticket sales for the TICC Scholarship Drawing. Be sure to see her and purchase your tickets.

Sherrie thanked everyone for the confidence in her ability. She also talked about getting the scholarship applications. She also said if there is something you do not understand please contact her or Nancy Hewlett. She also acknowledged the donors for prizes for the scholarship drawings at TICC.

CURRENT RECIPIENTS:

2017 Zoe Brignon, Ennis, Texas

2018 Taylor Enslin, Sachse, Texas

2018 Lindee Fielder, Boerne, Texas

2018 Molly Northcott, Canadian, Texas
2018 Molly Northcott, Canadian, Texas
2019 Kelly Thomas, Texas
2019 Amber Lindsey, Texas
2019 Jasleen Goraya, Garland, Texas
2020 Robert Head, Shreveport, Texas
2020 Tarynn Luttrull, Rowlett, Texas
2020 William Green, Corpus Christi, Texas
2020 Madison Tarrant, Texas
2021 Breyanna Robinson, Rowlett, Texas
2021 Jesus Bostello, Garland, Texas
2021 Easton Sherfield, Oklahoma

Tex Schofield Recipients

2018 Heather Dahl, Terlingua, Texas
2020 Britney Martin, Texas
2021 Taylor Ohl, Terlingua, Texas

Friends of CASI Recipients

2018 Alondra Leyva, Terlingua, Texas
2019 Grace Sullivan, Terlingua, Texas
2020 Luisa Rodriguez, Terlingua, Texas
2021 Jakelin Orozco, Terlingua, Texas

Earl Gorham of Indiana Pepper Pod made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Michael Mayorga of Pasadena Pod. **Motion passed.**

Kris Hudspeth spoke on the trade scholarships and recommended that you contact the AG teachers for help in getting the applications. He said the scholarship program is important to CASI and get behind **it.**

MERCHANDISING REPORT

Renee Moore gave the following report:

Since we've established, we WILL have TICC this year, we've commenced purchasing items for the store. If there are specific items you are interested in, please let me know.

We had a good year in the store in 2019 but had inventory left. In August last year, I traveled to Terlingua and brought back all the items that remained. As I'm sure you remember, we sold surplus inventory at the 2020 GPM and this year at Texas Ladies' State. I'm happy to report, thanks to your generosity and love of garage sales, there are few items left which are also being sold this weekend.

The Coordinator for the Krazy Flats Store and I are working together to try to avoid duplication of items. Additionally, we're discussing the possibility of selling each other's items.

A special thanks to all who have assisted with the Store at TICC, whether on folding day or selling; also, to those who helped with the sales during the last year.

If you want to see everyone at TICC, you can accomplish that by working in the Store. I hope you'll consider giving a couple hours of your time at TICC. A good time is had by all! Patti Jones of Rose City Pod made a motion to accept this report, seconded by Ron Masson of Heart of Dixie Pod. **Motion passed.**

Trails

It has been 19 months since Mike Watkins agreed to lead a transition team as the Trails interim editor. As we have not yet identified anyone interested in assuming Trails editing responsibilities, Mike has removed "interim" from his title of Editor-in-Chief. He was supported by Carol Knight who has been a key member of the Trails team.

Since early 2020, the Trails team has used a (potentially) collaborative, cloud-based workflow that could (potentially) reduce the reliance on a single editor. We say "potentially" as we still are in search of additional team members including a new Editor-in-Chief. Prior computer experience and a willingness to learn is all that is required. Mike and Carol stand ready to welcome and train anyone interested in any aspect of the Trails production: Story collection and editing, photo collection and editing, copy editing, page layout, ad creation and editing, and proof reading. Unpaid internships on our staff are also encouraged for high school and college-aged students. A great way to add skills to their resume.

A few of the 2021 statistics and highlights are summarized below:

- The Trails has remained an electronic only publication throughout the 2020-2021 chili season.
- Page count was 22-28 pages/issue and continues to increase as cook-off listings, ads, and results have expanded.
- Trails only 2020-2021 expenses are the Adobe Creative Cloud Subscription which allows shared access to Adobe InDesign page layout software. The subscription cost is \$197.42 per year.
- Paid ads generating \$599.50 revenue year to date: Southwest Open/North of Brazos Pod Cook-off, Houston Pod Cook-off, Bodacious Chili Powder, and Bill Renfro Memorial.

- A Trails email cleanup project has been in effect the last several months. I have hundreds of members that do not have emails attached to their account. I have cleaned up non-working emails. To this date I have around a dozen that I have not deleted, until I insure in fact these emails are no good. This could be a joint project led by Membership with support from the Trails, BOD, and other CASI members.

Again, we would like to reiterate that we welcome additional team members (temporary or permanent) and are actively recruiting for a new Trails editor. Mike and Carol will provide all the support and training necessary – all you need is a desire to give back to CASI and share our stories of chili, charity, and fun with the world! Lastly, I would like to thank Mike Watkins and Carol Knight from the bottom of my heart for all their hard work and dedication. I encourage you all to please thank them as well. Month end is always a challenge, between personal life, work, and cook-offs, they give their all for the love of CASI.

Mel Fitzhenry of the Black Sheep Pod made a motion to accept this report, seconded by Gary Christiansen of Iowa Pod. **Motion Passed.**

Celia Rivera made a motion to accept Brian Spencer by acclamation, seconded by Ron Barnes of Cowtown. **Motion passed.**

Cindy Noe of NOB Pod made a motion to accept Michael Mayorga seconded by Ron Barnes of Cowtown. **Motion passed.**

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Kris Hudspeth called on Brandy Rather.

Brandy stated that New Mexico Chili Society began their journey to become a 12-point state. After several years of hard work, we were able to have enough cookoffs in New Mexico state to be a 12-point state. Our other goal was to host a Men and Women's State Championship. For several years we have been able to offer these to our cooks because we had reached our goal in 2019 – 2020 chili year we were able to have these cookoffs in 2021. This year because of COVID and the lockdown of our state and because of the ruling to the Board to reduce the state points, we have been reduced to a NINE POINT state as result. And this governs our ability to have a New Mexico Men and Ladies State Championship in this year. Currently, the state of New Mexico we are at 10 cookoffs however three years ago New Mexico took over the jurisdiction of six Texas counties because Southeast New Mexico Social Pod was the closest pod. They were originally assigned to a pod out of Amarillo. These counties formed the NRA region. We have held three cookoffs in this area this year and they do not count for our state total because they are Texas counties. Today I am here to petition the Great Peppers and voting delegates to allow New Mexico to remain a 12- point state for the 2021 – 2022 so we can continue to offer these championships to the residents of New Mexico. I can assure you that as long as our state remains open,

we will get our 12 cookoffs in the coming year. Thank you for your understanding and support of the SENMCS.

Ron Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion that we accept the request, seconded by Craig Schlicke of Highland Lakes Pod. Renee Moore stated that Heart of Tennessee had also requested to be a 12-point state several years ago. They want to be a 12- point state **Motion passed.**

Mel Fitzhenry spoke of the collection taken up last year for the Toy Drive. He asked that we again donate to this fund. Pods started donating. Make your checks out to CASI. Keith thanked everyone for their donations and that at TICC we will have the toy drive also.

Mel recognized that today was September and requested everyone stand for the American Flag.

Keith said the rule changes we were going to be voting on start on page 49 in the manuals.

Purposed change:

I Chili cooking Rules

A.2. NO FILLERS IN CHILI – Beans, macaroni, rice, hominy, or other similar ingredients are not permitted. a. Onions, peppers and tomatoes are permitted in chili as long as these ingredients are of a consistent size and are distributed evenly throughout the judging cup.

Earl Gorhum of Indiana Pepper Pod made a motion to change this rule, seconded by Gary Christiansen of Iowa Chili Pod. **Motion passed.**

Purposed change:

II. Chili Judging Rules

G. Announcing winners – The top ten (10) or more chili winners and the top three (3) or more showmanship winners must be announced in reverse order of finish (e.g., 10th, 9th, 8th, ,,,,3rd, 2nd, 1st). It is preferred that winners be announced within 30 minutes of the completion of final judging.

1. METHOD OF ANNOUNCING – Winning chili numbers will not be revealed until announcement of winners. At that time, the ticket with the secret number that is affixed to the outside of each cu- will be removed and passed to the announcer (Persons announcing, monitoring, judging, or refereeing may cook if they so choose; however, if announcing, they need to APPOINT A NEUTRAL PARTY WHO DID NOT COOK TO HANDLE THE JUDGING CUPS, REMOVE THE TICKETS AND VERIFY THE MATCHING NUMBER.)

Ron Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion to accept, seconded by Patti Myers Jones of Rose City.

Motion passed.

Purposed change:

V. THE CASI SANCTIONED COOKOFF

B. 3. OTHER CASI RULES THAT AFFECT MULTIPLE COOKOFFS ON ONE SITE – Only one cookoff will be held an any site on any one day. (Exception: Men’s and Women’s State Championships may be held on the same day at one site.)

4. CONSECUTIVE COOKOFFS ON ONE SITE. When cookoffs at the same site are scheduled for consecutive days, the same charity may benefit from each cookoff.

Ron Barnes of Cowtown made a motion to accept, seconded by Harvey West of Red River Valley Pod.

Motion passed.

Purposed change:

VII. THE CASI TERLINGUA INTERNATIONAL CHILI CHAMPIONSHIP (TICC)

1. Qualified chili cooks

g. CASI POD COOKOFF – All established sanctioned Pods, in good standing for 2 years after seating are eligible for their annual recognized (one official Pod Cookoff per year) Pod cookoff winner to be automatically qualified for TICC.

Harvey West of Red River Valley Pod made a motion to accept, seconded by Bob Steinle of ACES Pod. **Motion passed.**

The following rules were put into place due to COVID and no longer apply. We will vote to remove the language.

Rule E.1. Qualified Chili Cooks

E1. Points earned by cooks and shows teams in 2020 will be brought forward to chili year 2021.

E2. Cooks and show teams who qualified under the 2020 reduced points requirement will not have that qualification carry over to the 2021 chili year.

Ron Barnes of Cowtown made a motion to accept, seconded by Patti Myers Jones of Rose City, Motion passed.

This rule also needs the language removed:

e. QUALIFICATION FOR CASI TICC

1. QUALIFIED CHILI COOKS

g.1. All cooks and show teams qualified under b,c,d,f, g above in chili year 2020 will have those qualifications carry over to the 2021 chili year only.

Ron Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion to remove the language, seconded by Don Hoy of Colorado Chili Pod. **Motion passed.**

After July 1st I have been communicating with Brian Spencer and he is aware of what we are about to talk about and has given his blessing to discuss this. Great Peppers Meeting for 2022. The City of Gonzales love us. I would like to propose that because of the financial costs when we are here, we are able to do all this for the \$5000 that we had on hand. They have offered a

three-year deal. We already have a \$1300 deposit that would be refundable if we cancel withing the time frame.

Keith Karaff purposed that we hold the GPM here again for the next three year.

Ron Barnes of Cowtown Pod made a motion to accept his proposal, seconded by Earl Gorhum of Indiana Pepper Pod. **Motion passed.**

Keith said that traditionally at this time Gonzales has a BBQ cookoff. He has been approached about holding a Friday night cookoff with an 8 pm turn in time. We are in discussion with her right now. They want us back. I also had the discussion with Brian that if the Great Peppers agree with this that I would be the contact and use the contacts that I have already built.

Keith Karaff informed the audience that the Mass Gathering permits will be voted on in September.

Keith introduced the new posters for TICC. We only had the large posters made up because we were not sure if we were going to have TICC or not.

Kris Hudspeth said there were two pieces that have not been touched in years. The Red jacket. We are changing from the old style to a new updated style. This jacket is a higher quality.

Keith gave an update on Event Brite. There have been 117 or \$3355 for spectators tickets sold to date.

Keith Karaff said that the half peppers for final table will be back at TICC this year. These are made with resin.

Mel Fitzhenry, Black Sheep Pod, made a motion to withdraw the usage fee of \$25 for TICC. You have come up here and said that you are financially stable...you have money to buy this and that and you want \$25 a person from every CASI member to go out to Terlingua when they expect thousands of dollars to come in throughout the year, seconded by David Manske from Casinova Pod. **Motion failed.**

Keith Karaff played the video of the members we lost this year.

ELECTION OF NEW DIRECTORS/VOTING RIGHTS

Keith Karaff announced the results of the election.

3- year term - Jennifer Sherfield 47

3- year term – Kathryn Cavender 42

2 -year term - - Mike Whitten 27

2 -year term – John Pierce 2

Break out for election of officers.

Brian Spencer, new ED, announces the following new officers:

President Renee Moore, Vice President Nancy Hewlett, Secretary Kathryn Cavender and Treasurer Mike Whitten.

Renee Moore thanked Kris, Keith and Scotty for all they have done.

Richard Knight of Capital Pod made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ron Barnes of Cowtown.

Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hewlett, Secretary