



Society of Flavor Chemists Business Meeting (#463) Minutes September 14, 2023

The General Business Meeting (#463) of the Society of Flavor Chemists was held at the Hyatt Place Chicago O'Hare in Rosemont, IL and virtually on the ZOOM platform. The meeting was called to order by President Bill Aslanides @ 4:04 p.m. CST

Quorum was satisfied.

I. Approval of meeting minutes – Bill Aslanides

1. Approval of the minutes of the May 11, 2023 General Business Meeting

- a. Bill Aslanides asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the May 11, 2023 General Business Meeting as submitted. Motion seconded and Minutes approved.

II. Presentation of Candidates for voting - Membership Committee

- a. There are three new candidates for membership.
 - i. Brian Dombrowski – Doehler NA- Upgrade to certified.
 - (a) Aparna read a note from Deborah Kennison.

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- ii. Eric Diaz – Edlong- Upgrade to certified.
 - (a) Maryann Maloney spoke on his behalf.
- iii. Chelsea Ickes – Silesia- Apprentice
 - (a) Marcell Salonga and Mary Svoboda spoke on her behalf.
- iv. Voting took place and all three candidates were approved for membership.
Congratulations Brian, Eric, and Chelsea.

III. Board of Directors Reports

1. Secretary: Scott Michaluk

- a. NO REPORT

2. Treasurer:

- a. Marissa introduced herself as a new member of the society.
- b. Transition is still taking place.
- c. Financially we are still in a bit of a sticky situation.
 - i. Funds are low. Conversations about meetings and how we are losing money on meetings.
 - ii. Open bar to cash bar. Inflation is a problem.
 - iii. The symposium is next year and hope to make money on that.
 - iv. Please be patient with the society we are trying to be physically responsible.
 - v. Next couple months are going to be challenging.
 - vi. The funds have dwindled.
 - vii. There is a sponsorship called the friends of the society. Encourage companies to contribute.

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- viii. Need to be more sustainable as a society.
- ix. We showed the webpage for friends of the society page.

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- x. We got hit hard by all the penalties for canceling meetings which cut into what we are doing.
- xi. Expenses at hotel meetings are outrageous.
- xii. Organizing sponsor events and appeal to those of you in the room to help.
- xiii. We have received Justins report and being shared.
- xiv. We need better attendance at the meetings to help. Could be the difference between breaking even or losing money.
- xv. Sponsorship needed for cash bar, etc.
- xvi. Dues increasing from 150 to 200. A 50-dollar increase.
- xvii. The website is more professional and that costs money.
- xviii. Level of dues compared to other organizations, and we are still on the low side.
- xix. At IFT level you just pay the dues. We have certification.
- xx. Will open dues payment earlier this year.

d. Report April 30 through August 31, 2023

- \$4,859.49 Checking balance
- \$8,046.73 Savings
- \$4,269.41 PayPal
- \$ 10,033.32 in Edward Jones account
- TOTAL STARTING BALANCE = \$41,646.40
- TOTAL INCOME: \$18,706.44
- TOTAL EXPENSES \$28,079.46
- CLOSING FINAL TOTAL = \$22,939.96

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3. Vice President: *Justin Kozlowski*

a. NO REPORT

4. President: *Bill Aslanides*

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- a. In person testing will resume. 1 panelist must be present. Other panel members can be virtual.
- b. Evaluation of people in person can take a different tone and in person can be easier to get answers and evaluation of the person can be easier.
- c. People are coming to the meetings and the person testing is a paid ticket holder.
- d. Have we thought about charging for zoom?
 - i. It has come up thru Paul, Chris, Cathianne, and Bills
 - ii. If we charge something like 100 dollars. Everyone can just pile into a room and all watch.
 - iii. Looked at BSF. Their small fee charged about 20 dollars per person. Will people not attend or not bother.
- e. Will we go away from virtual testing.
 - i. Will be at the meetings. We won't report the backlog for the time being.
 - ii. People were scheduling because of the backlog and then they weren't ready and canceled.
 - iii. We want people that are ready to apply within one month of application.
 - iv. Virtual testing allowed for a lot of ease to cancel at the last minute.

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- v. We had a no show at Newark.
- vi. Should we charge a fee for certification?
 - (a) The testing fee will be at the same level as dues are.

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- (b) If they are blowing off testing, they will need to reapply.
- vii. Lost our cushion and being pre symposium we are having issues.
 - (a) We are splitting the February meeting.
 - (b) Potential cancellation of NJ meeting in October.
 - (c) Looking at real world solutions
 - (d) We are losing thousands of dollars per meeting.
 - (e) Because WFFC is also fragrance do we see more revenue there?
 - (i) They are different organizations. They are regulated differently. SFC is not for profit and WFFC is for profit. There are differences in budgeting.
 - (f) We should try to get even at events. It hasn't been that way in a while.
 - (g) We should have corporate sponsors to cover lunch because our companies depend on our society.
 - (h) We need to cover the expenses due to inflation. We need to come to terms with where we are at.
 - (i) In the past FONA has hosted. Is this something we can investigate.

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- (j) The last roundtable was held at FONA and there were a lot of flavor companies that were upset.
- (k) We need testing rooms, etc. to cover per meeting.
- (l) Join friends of the Society.
 - (i) Plan to share via LinkedIn and email.

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- (ii) Let's hit up our companies and our suppliers for support.
- (iii) Can't be shy at this point.
- (iv) Think about what the Society has done for you. Please help out.
- (v) Cathianne had talked to Elsa. The year before symposium runs thin. The difference here are inflationary pressures which amplifies the issue.
- (vi) We have proactively created programs to help address this.
- (m) Need new blood on committees.
 - (i) Some openings that need to be filled. Help Chris with Arrangements, Allison on Media that are key to fundraising. Also, Sponsorship committee chair needed. Will have a lot of help from the board. Voluntold people welcome.

5. Chairperson: Cathianne Leonardi

- a. If anyone would like to join the Nomination committee to get talking with people and gauging who would like to join in a leadership position.
Nominating@flavorchemist.org.

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- b. Putting together a program with the CSA for review of chemicals to add a flavorist perspective. Evaluations by flavorists would be helpful.
Chair@flavorchemist.org

IV. Committee Reports

1. Arrangements Committee: Chris Williams

- a. No Report

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2. Assistant Secretary:

- a. Lauren Hammerschmidt is taking over that role.

3. Audit Committee: *Paul Ricciardi*

- a. No Report

4. By-Laws Committee: *Chris Williams for Mariano Gascon*

- a. No Report

5. History Committee: *Sharon Tortola*

- a. Thanks for helping filling out the family tree.
- b. Please email Dolf and Sharon if anyone has the Van Dorland and Rodgers information or Carl Jensen, of JC. Labs that sold the scientific flavors business to 2 investors that then sold it to national starch.
- c. Thanks to Elsa for uploading. Thanks to Dolf for gathering information.
- d. Looking for pretty old information.

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- e. Digitization of old newsletter. SHI was going to scan but it was going to cost money so Bill and Elsa will be working on that,

6. Library Committee: *Sam Tharpe*

- a. October 6th is Forensic Friday at SHI and an open event to join in. Eventbrite link will be shared. Try and get out to support the SHI and SFC.

7. Media Committee: *Alison Freedman*

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- a. Looking for volunteers for this year and beyond.
- b. Busy year due to symposium. We can shape our future together!
- c. Media@flavorchemist.org

8. Membership Committee:

- a. Move away from virtual and will happen at meeting events only. In person for candidate and at least one panelist
- b. Assignment in testing date in advance. Will be assigned a test date based on the next event. 1 months' notice will be given.
- c. Testing fees increased to \$150.
- d. A lot of cancellations and some no shows
 - i. Non-ADA reasons will require to reapply.
- e. The application fee is 150 now as of the new year it will be 200 dollars.
- f. We need to hold people accountable. If people are just canceling, then there are a lot of things that are affected.

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- g. Mentors will be CC'd on emails where your apprentice was notified of testing dates.

9. Meeting Committees

- a. **Chicago Program:** *Lauren Hammerschmidt & Greg Griffin*
 - i. Bill Thanked them for a great day today.
 - ii. No Report about 80 people in attendance today

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b. Midwest Program: ~~Michael Weller~~

- i. No Report

c. East Coast Program: ~~Kim Bendickson~~

- i. NO REPORT

d. West Coast Program: ~~Jay Harris~~

- i. Bill spoke on their behalf. Good agenda with a field trip. Momentum is building we had quorum last time we had a meeting there. Encourage anyone trying to budget to get there we will try to send agenda soon.

10. Membership Committee: ~~Aparna Oak & Ashley Rizzo~~

- a. No Report

11. Nominating Committee: ~~Paul Ricciardi~~

- a. No Report

12. Sponsorship Committee: ~~Cathianne Leonardi~~

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- a. Looking for a new chair

13. Recognition Committee: ~~Mary Robertson~~

- a. Busy ordering pins and other supplies.

14. Scholarship Committee: ~~Megan Nolan~~

- a. No Report

15. Symposium Committee: ~~John Baughman (not in attendance)~~

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- a. Bill updated. We are about a year out. Will be at Cincinnati Hilton in October.
- b. Please invest your time to help the symposium committee. Good way to get used to the structure of the committee and a worthwhile way to get involved in.

16. Website Committee: *Elsa Howerth*

- a. To help Sharon on Family tree. Most recent progress is under most recent news and updates. People need to go in and make corrections to help with names and dates.
- b. Plan to update every time Dolf sends updates. Regarding the family tree the email will be resent for you to share.
- c. Friends of society sponsorship is an annual commitment. Becomes due annually. Will be like dues.
- d. There are different levels of sponsorship. 1k, 2k, and 5k.
- e. Adding a new feature to application due to ADA requirements. Membership will accommodate reasonable needs for those with disabilities.

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- f. Constant contact email listing. It was just sending to the members list. Anyone who has attended a meeting will now be a part of the distribution list.

V. Unfinished Business – Bill Aslanides

- a. NONE

VI. New Business – Bill Aslanides

- a. None

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VII. Adjournment

- a. President Bill Aslanides thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 5:17 P.M. CST

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Michaluk
SFC Secretary 2022 – 2024

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