



American Culinary Federation  
Long Island Chapter

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 23rd, 2024

Attendance:

<u>Executive Board</u>		<u>Board of Directors</u>	
Nancy Kombert (President)	✓	Chris Palmer (Fundraising)	Proxy:
Paul Jensen (Chairman)	X	Rich Simon (Scholarship)	✓
Spiro Giannakouloupoulos (Vice)(Cert. & Comp.Chair)	✓	Roland Iadanza (Placement)	✓
John Carr (Vice)(Website)	✓	Chris LaVecchia (Program & Media)	✓
Liz Franks (Treasurer)	✓	Alain De Coster (Membership)	✓
Chelsea Osiecki (Secretary)	✓	Martin Daniels (Trustee & Co-Sponsorship)	x
Andrew Whitcomb (Srgt. in Arms)	✓	Ed Daniels (Trustee & Co-Sponsorship)	✓
		Eric Pellizari (Trustee)	✓
		Anthony Muzia (Trustee)	✓
		Anthony Digiantomasso (Trustee)	Proxy: John Carr

### Nancy Kombert (President):

- Nationals looking for photos from convention to share with them if you any go on website and share them
- National also has chefs forum free of charge register if you want to join
- Acf USA team tryouts September 27-28 at Johnson and Wales
- New director of communications for Acf any questions reach out on national website
- National board positions are taking nominations deadline is December 1
- Website and all email accounts have been placed on the website and updating site weekly with content. Any content needed to be added please reach out to Shannon or Spiro or myself to update or corrections
- Nominations for awards needed
- Budgets need to be submitted as well
- Sponsorship levels are complete for this year, can review and update next year
- Video from September meeting on website
- Created a google workspace account
  - This allows for every email to be forward to your personal email and leaves an alias for the website

### Spiro Giannakoulopoulos (Vice President):

- **ACF Certification Practical Exam**
  - Fall, Winter and Spring
    - Dates are confirmed nationally
    - 10/28/24
    - 1/27/25
    - 4/28/25
- **New Chapter Pins & Chapter Logo**
  - Chapter logo is in process with the graphics department at ESBOCES
  - Should have a rough draft of it at the next board meeting
  - Once the logo is complete, pins will be created
- **ACFLI Board Business Cards**
  - Received the cards and at the next board meeting we will have them to hand out so everyone has them to use
- **Restaurant Depot ACFLI Partnership**
  - Chef Nancy and Chef Spiro are working on a partnership with Restaurant Depot that will bring chapter sponsor events and yearly monetary dollar amounts
    - Master series is underway
      - 2 demos presented to our ACFLI student community
    - By next meeting we will have solidified the sponsorship from Restaurant depot
- **Jetro Restaurant Depot Winter Classic**
  - Thoughts of swapping winter scholarships for cook offs
  - Student Teams or individuals
  - Chapter medals and monetary winnings
  - Local Chefs & Sponsor Judge
- **Ready Set Cook**
  - 01.13.25
  - Will be product sponsored by Restaurant Depot & Scholarships by Chef Frank and Monroe College

- Need to create a form to be filled out by competitors saying that if they compete they understand they must attend the Gala and BBQ
  - Students and Parents are aware if competing and are winning school they must attend the gala to receive scholarship prize and medal
- Ready Set Cook will be hosted at Wilson Tech this year (5:15pm arrival)
  - ESBOCES as a backup option
- Competition format (mystery basket-10 min menu plan,60 min cook & plate)
- Removing Chef mentors (allow students to collaborate and problem solve)
- Chef Frank will inform winning schools prior to the gala

**John Carr (Vice President):**

- Sponsorship letters and levels have been sent to all the sponsors on the website.
  - One Event was a space holder, and Middleby was not a reputable company, All star specialties, rc fine foods are out
    - Remove from the website
  - Adam's apple & Blackfish said they want to re up their sponsorship
    - Waiting for response for what level they choose
  - Reaching out to pasta people and performance group
- Sysco and Restaurant Depot are currently the only sponsors.
  - Thank you, posts have been sent out thru E-blast to the entire membership.
- Sent out e-blast for October meeting that Chris LaVecchia has provided. I will send it out every week going forward.
- Journal Ads- waiting until we have our nominations to start
- Current Events – Separate tab on website - Thoughts on featuring a local business, school, restaurant, bakery every month/ few months to share their story about anything new upcoming that they are working on. Potential opportunity to have them become new members/ support/ sponsor the ACFLI.

**Liz Franks (Treasurer):**

- Balance \$26,490.73
- Need committees to submit budget requests
  - Committee budgets

**Chelsea Osiecki (Secretary):**

- Deadline for recaps need to be submitted by the Friday before so that there is time to get the agenda put together
- Sent out a thank you letter to all the chef's at Northwell Health for their presentation and hospitality at the monthly meeting.
  - Received a response from Chef Brian, I will attach his response to the email with these meeting minutes for those who would like to read it.
- ACFLI Secretary email
  - All correspondence to be to this email moving forward
  - Will be emailing meeting from [ACFLISECRETARY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ACFLISECRETARY@GMAIL.COM)
- Although we discussed google meet, Nancy has access to no limit zoom so we will utilize that for the time being and purchase google meet in the future.

- Email link will be sent out with the same day as the meeting for those who will not be able to show up in person

**Richard Simon (Scholarship/Jr. membership)**

- \$500 chapter scholarship for winter to be presented at Gala
- We are working on a new design for a redesigned chapter pin suitable for convention and show trading

**Roland Iadanza (Placement):**

- Multiple places with open positions
  - Wellbridge
  - Cactus Cafe
  - Baking Positions-Hummel Hummel
- Lots of positions available and people who are looking for placement

**Chris LaVecchia (Social Media & Programming):**

- **SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT:**
  - **FB: AMERICAN CULINARY FEDERATION OF LONG ISLAND / WE CURRENTLY HAVE 2.9K FOLLOWERS ON FB**
  - **IG: @LiChefs / WE CURRENTLY HAVE 1,305 FOLLOWERS ON IG**
  - **IG TAGS: USE THE # ACFLI & LICHEFS / TAG @LiChefs IN YOUR POSTS**
  - IF ANYONE HAS ANY POSTS THAT THEY WOULD LIKE ME TO SHARE PLEASE TEXT OR EMAIL ME PHOTOS, ALONG WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION, TITLES, HANDLES (@), ETC.
  - I ALSO SHARE POSTS FROM PAGES WE FOLLOW, CINY, BOCES, CHEFS, ETC. & ANYTHING RELEVANT TO CULINARY EDUCATION
  - I CAN SHARE POSTS TO OUR STORY, ONLY IF THE PAGE IS SET TO "PUBLIC"
- **PROGRAMMING & DEMOS:**
  - **October Meeting:**
    - Monday 10.07.24
    - **Location:** Curate in the Affinity Building 5 Wellwood Ave / Farmingdale (2 Miles South Of the L.I.E)
    - **Demo:** Common Meadows Creamery
  - **November Meeting:**
    - Monday 11.04.24
    - **Location:** Melville Marriott
    - **Demo:** Podravka USA INC
  - **December Meeting:**
    - Monday 12.02.24
    - **Location:** Empire Bakery Equipment / 1 C, 1 Enterprise Way / Hicksville, NY 11801
    - **Demo:** Cooking Making Demo
  - **January:**
    - **No Meeting**
    - Ready-Set-Cook
      - Monday 01.13.25
  - **February Meeting:**
    - Monday 02.03.25

- **Location:** wineUdesign / 156 Engineers Dr. / Hicksville, NY 11801
  - **Demo:** Winemaking & Sampling / Other: TBD
- **March Meeting:**
  - **Monday 03.03.25**
  - **Location:** T B D
  - **Demo:** T B D
  - **ACFLI ANNUAL CULINARY EXCELLENCE AWARDS GALA:**  
Monday, March 24, 2025
- **April Meeting:**
  - **Monday 04.07.25** (Possible Joint Meeting With ACFELI?)
  - **Location:** Homestead Farm / 5412 Sound Avenue / Riverhead, NY
  - **Demo:** Homestead Farm / Farm Chef Larry Kaiser
- **May Meeting:**
  - **Monday 05.05.25**
  - **Location:** T B D
  - **Demo:** T B D
- **June:**
  - **Monday 06.02.25**
  - No Meeting
  - ACFLI BBQ / Location: T B D

#### **Ed Daniels (Trustee/Co-Sponsorship):**

- Need updates on website for all upcoming meetings because they aren't currently up to date
- Review the sponsor options
  - I think if all Board members and members help create a list vendor targets for sponsorship ( each Board member submits 3 vendors each member submits 2 vendors) that will give us dozens of prospects reach out to, I would not mind being the front guy or one of the front guys on this project
- Who can we get endorsements from as that will help with membership and sponsorship

#### **Old Business:**

- Gala
  - Venues:
    - Stonebridge
      - Roland is incontact—are interested seeing what we can work out
    - Jericho Terrace
      - Chris L will speak with his contacts
  - Proposals for location by October meeting
  - December board meeting, is deadline for gala nominees
    - **Nomination:**
      - **Sponsorship of the Year: Restaurant Depot**
      - **Chef of the Year:**
      - **Pastry Chef of the Year:**
    - Need to know so we can tell the person who is nominated so that they come to the Gala
    - Worthy gets awards—lets not just give awards to give awards
  - Journal ads

- \$350 front cover
    - \$250 back cover
    - \$100 journal ad
  - Sponsors get an ad in the journal depending on tier of sponsorship
    - Flyers for Journals at every meeting
- Committees
  - Create budget for each committee to work with and control expenses each committee should have their own budget to work with
  - Need to start getting budgets together for different committees & nail down who is on each committee
    - Money for travel, what is covered, what isn't, what is the budget
- Chris J Neary Competition
  - Date: Possible May 3rd, 2025?
  - Advertisement of Christopher J Neary Culinary Challenge patches (\$5) and pins (\$10)
    - Sell at meetings & competition, Venmo or cash

**New Business:**

- Google Classroom attached to ACFLI Secretary for everyone to use
  - Will have more information on how to use it at October meeting
- Sponsors who commit to Executive level sponsorship, present a \$500 scholarship at the Gala
  - We need to ask them if they want to pick the recipient or if they want to leave it up to us
  - Professional Scholarship or a student scholarship
  - Need to figure that out within the next month in order to give people time to apply and compete