



American Culinary Federation  
Long Island Chapter

## Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, August 19th, 2024

Attendance:

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

### Nancy Kombert (President):

- BBQ
  - Invite all presenters to annual ACFLI BBQ to thank them for their support over the year
    - Motioned, Seconded, Passed
  - Just have the scholarships for bbq and no medals just certificates for skills
  - Those who are receiving awards must be present to receive them or we are not handing them out. We should have confirmation that they will be present for all awards and scholarships awarded
    - Motioned, Seconded, Passed
- Gala—March 24th
  - Nominations for vendor of the year we have to start thinking about that
  - Need a MC for the gala in 2025
    - Rocco?
    - a DJ
      - Martin & Ed have suggestions
    - Steve Bello
  - New venue for awards gala 2025
    - Captain Bills
    - Jericho Terrace
  - \$90 per person all in, including gratuities—we donated entire passed food/app bar/dessert
    - Approx 175 people attend
    - \$150 per plate charge
    - Need to start gathering nominating for Culinary Excellence Award for Gala
      - Need commitment by December
- New presidential awards will be pins with ribbons
  - Pins—president pin with pin drape
    - Motion to create presidential pin over medal
    - Seconded, Passed
  - Inquire about all accounts including checking accounts are in an interest bearing account and retain a ACFLI credit card to use and get points or mileage on
    - Motion to move account to a high yield checking/savings account
      - Motioned, Seconded, Passed
  - Work on all presenters being members of the chapter or a national chapter
  - Make sure everyone is receiving the minutes and providing chelsea with the minutes and or proxy prior to the board meetings so she can submit and updated agenda for the meeting to be streamlined and organized

### Spiro Giannakouloupoulos (Vice President):

- Introducing and recommending Shannon B. to the ACFLI Board
  - She is going to shadow Liz & assist Chef Simon with scholarship
- **ACF 2024 National Convention in Phoenix Recap**
  - Thank the ACFLI Board for their support towards the National convention.
  - We had strong presents there.
  - Encourage our members to attend the conference if available or if their company will support their conference with educational budgets.

- **Supporting Chef Chris L./Media & Programming**
  - Review Calendar outline–
    - Discussion to move meeting in Jan & Feb & CJA Comp.
    - Anyone with input please let us know–will update and handout an up to date format at next meeting
    - **ACF Certification Practical Exam**
      - Looking to host 3 exams this year
        - Fall, Winter and Spring
      - Dates are highlighted on the calendar but will be updated/confirm at Sept. board meeting
- **New Chapter Pins & Chapter Logo**
  - Chef Simon & Spiro are going to be working on new chapter pins and chapter logo with the graphics department at ESBOCES
  - The national logo has to stay the same
- **ACFLI Board Business Cards**
  - Working with Chef Chris on tweaking his media card to fit our board layout and create a general card we can handout
  - Universal card for everyone
    - Motioned, Seconded, Passed
- **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
    - Looking for financial sponsorship along with products
    - Looking to create a masters series with Restaurant depot to bring to the high school levels
      - Will be looking for Chefs to come and create items with his products to showcase them to vendors
- **Ready Set Cook**
  - Will be product sponsored by Restaurant Depot & Scholarships by Chef Frank and Monroe College
  - ACFLI Competition Attend to Compete Form (Presented at Sept Board Meeting)
  - 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)
  - 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
- **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

**John Carr (Vice President):**

- All the dates have been confirmed with Debbie at the Melville Marriott for member meetings and board meetings.
  - The only date that is not available is November 18th, which is a board meeting.
    - The date will be rescheduled for a different location.
  - Debbie has sent over the contracts for all the dates, even though we are not paying for the room, It will still need to be signed and dated. John has printed all the forms out and will be submitting them

- Sent out e-blast for September meeting that Chris LaVecchia has provided.
  - John will send it out every week going forward.
  - He has asked Anabel to post the flyer as a pop up on the website on the main page, as well as change the location and address on the event page.
- Mentorship program
  - What are everyone's thoughts on starting a mentorship program between a chef/student?
  - John believes it would be beneficial to have this program to benefit the students for their future career, involvement and retention in the ACFLI organization.
- Journal ads
  - Motion for John and Shannon to take over the Journal Ads for the Gala
    - Seconded, Passed
  - Please, let's start thinking about journal ads for the gala. Sooner we get journal ads, sooner we get them to Liz
  - \$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

#### **Liz Franks (Treasurer):**

- Received thank you letter from Challengers Baseball for supplying the ice cream for their end of season party.
- Submitted 501c3 to Canva to hopefully stop the \$14.99 monthly subscription fee and receive their free non-profit subscription.
- Committee budgets
  - Liz would like to set up meetings with all committees or committee chairs to go over budgets within the next month.
  - If each committee could meet and prepare a budget beforehand, our meetings could be a short 5 minute virtual discussion.
  - Then we can vote on budget approvals at the next board meeting.
  - All committee chairs please contact Liz to set up these meetings in the next few weeks.
- Christopher J Neary Long Island Culinary Challenge: let's start soliciting sponsors for 2025. Spiro and I can work on sponsor levels/pricing
  - Please see document about sponsorship opportunities, we will be discussing and solidifying at the next meeting

#### **Chelsea Osiecki (Secretary):**

- ACFLI Secretary email
  - All correspondence to be to this email moving forward
  - Will be emailing meeting notes from ACFLISECRETARY@GMAIL.COM
  - Need to put Google Meet on that account for Videoing meetings
    - Google Meet premium \$144 for the year (\$12 per month/ 1-year commitment) to offer google meet for longer than an hour, be able to customize virtual meets & be able to control muting and unmuting

#### **Roland Iadanza (Placement):**

- Would like to recommend a new board member for Trustee & CoChair for Placement, Scott Benowitz.

- RC Fine Foods Nassau, Queens, Brooklyn Territory Manager. Scott would contribute to joining me as Co-Chair- job placement.
- Motion to bring Scott Benowitz on as Trustee & CoChair for Placement—Seconded, Passed
- Would like all ACFLI meetings to start with a roll call. Ask members and potential members to speak loudly and clearly when stating their name and place of employment or school etc.
  - Let attendees know that we offer one meeting gratis and after that we would like them to join ACFLI. Let them know that their employers would most likely cover their membership fee. Please see Chef Alain for membership information.
- Job Placement.
  - Prime Fine catering in Garden City-AM Sous Chef- Alain's son Jeffery interviewing for this position.
  - Many other positions available. Please email resumes to iadanza11yahoo.com.
  - Students Experienced Bakers needed. Riesterer Bakery, located in West Hempstead NY
  - Hummel Hummel Bake Shop in East Northport.
  - Watermill Cater looking for executive Chef Chef Andy Helliwell is retiring at the end of November—they will be looking for an executive Chef

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

- **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:**
  - **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024: 6PM**
    - **LOCATION:** BEHIND SOUTH SHORE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL / NORTHWELL HEALTH 1933 UNION BLVD, BAY SHORE, NY 11706
    - **DEMO:** NORTHWELL CHEFS  
[https://youtu.be/AiH1rZg\\_0x8?si=5FmIP9NZFFi95ktm](https://youtu.be/AiH1rZg_0x8?si=5FmIP9NZFFi95ktm)
    - **SIDEBAR:** US FOODS
  - **MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024**
    - **LOCATION:** TBD: MELVILLE MARRIOTT OR BSE FARMINGDALE (WAITING FOR CONFIRMATION: ANTHONY @ BSE)
    - **DEMO:** COMMON MEADOWS CREAMERY
    - **SIDEBAR:** TBD
  - **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2024**
    - **LOCATION:** MELVILLE MARRIOTT
    - **DEMO:** PODRAVKA USA INC. / ALBERT VIDULICH **WAITING FOR OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION**

- **SIDEBAR:** TBD
- **MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024:**
  - **LOCATION:** wineUdesign / WILL EITHER DO DEC. OR FEB. / CONFIRMING THIS WEEK
  - **DEMO:**
  - **SIDEBAR:** TBD
- **JANUARY 2025:**
  - NO DEMO / BOCES READY-SET-COOK / DATE TBD
- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2025:**
  - **LOCATION:** wineUdesign / WILL EITHER DO DEC. OR FEB. / CONFIRMING THIS WEEK
  - **DEMO:** wineUdesign
  - **SIDEBAR:** TBD
- **MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025:**
  - **LOCATION & DEMO:** TBD
- **MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025:**
  - **ANNUAL GALA / JERICO TERRACE?** (TBD)
- **MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025:**
  - **Farm Demo?** Co-meeting with Eastern Chapter
  - **LOCATION & DEMO** TBD
- **MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025:**
  - **LOCATION & DEMO** TBD
- **MONDAY, JUNE 2 2025:**
  - **NO DEMO / ANNUAL BBQ / LOCATION:** TBD

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

- Within the next week the sponsorship guidelines will be updated and sent to Ed & Martin so they have it going into the September meeting
  - Suggestions to look at other chapters to come up with our own sponsorship tiers & what they include
- The upcoming September meeting where attendees will be many of the Chefs from the Northwell group, should be seen as a unique window of opportunity to transition them from guests to members of the ACFLI.
  - Mocktails for September meeting
    - Motioned, Seconded, Passed
    - Ed to handle this, financially & logistically
  - Check with Brian to see if we can put sponsorship flyers at Sept. meeting
  - Ed create a graphic for sponsorship and Shannon will work on getting them printed at her work
    - Get a ACFLI banner with a QR code so we can put it out and show people our sponsorship

#### **New Business:**

- Motion to bring a student onto the board—Looking for someone who is interested in coming
  - Students from each school as representations & can google meet into meetings to avoid transportations constrictions
- Sponsorship is everyone's responsibility & Ed is the point
- Committees

- Create budget for each committee to work with and control expenses each committee should have their own budget to work with
- Sponsorship needs to be clarified and each tier discusses what is offered for their sponsorship.
- 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
- Advertisement of Christopher J Neary Culinary Challenge patches (\$5) and pins (\$10)
  - Create a pin and patch set for ACFLI chapter to sell
    - If we can get it done before the convention we can do trade pinning
    - Ask BOCES students for design ideas like the CJN pin
- Cannabis dinner for upcoming event–Communicate with Nancy if interested
- Video september meeting and use and a recruitment tool
  - Motion and agreed for Video approval
- Put together with hospitality news as a package with acf sponsorship they will receive an ad in the magazine
- Talk about National Convention also the minutes are available online at ACFCHEFS.org
  - Town hall meeting is also available on line they have 4 available so far and working on having them bi monthly
  - Working on creating task forces for several more committees : senior living, Asian culinary alliance, women in culinary, one more but I don't remember what it is.
  - Regional competitions and where they are being held next year–talking to allow extensions to give regions a space to have regional meeting
  - Next year's convention is in Las Vegas with two days of competitions and an extra day to the conference
  - Freedom chefs Challenge will be held next year at Nationals again .
  - Updating the bylaws for National