

Minutes EDIAFC Conference Call December 13, 2007 - 7:00 P.M.

Present: Askenstedt, Watson, Warrick, Cohan, Showmaker, Mellits, Lowden, Gouty, Stahl
Absent: Walton, Maney,

Minutes

The board received the minutes from the October 14, 2007 conference call.
There was a **motion** by Cohan and a second by Watson to approve the minutes of October 14 conference call. **Motion passed.**

Secretary Treasurer Report: No report

Conference Calls: Remember the conference call phone number is: **1-888-891-0496** and the code is **2732021**. All of the calls are Sunday at 7:00 PM. The proposed 2008 schedule is as follows;

Month	IAFC Call	EDIAFC Call	
January	10	13	
February	14	17	
March	13	16	
April	10	13	
May	08	18	Mothers Day
June	12	22	Fathers Day
July	10	13	
August	FRI	FRI	
September	11	14	
October	09	12	
November	13	16	
December	11	14	

EDIAFC Constitution and By-Laws: President Stahl forwarded a report the committee produced as well as a marked up copy of the C&B with changes recommended by the Committee. The consensus was that the Board would do a ballot at the next conference rather than doing a mail ballot. It was agreed that the Board would address the changes on either a separate conference call or at the next Board meeting if held in time.

FRI 2010

The Secretary made a **motion** that the Division express our unanimous opposition to any consideration of having the 2010 FRI in Dallas and that the State Director each request their State Chiefs Associations go on record as opposing Dallas as well. There was a second by Warrick.
The motion passed unanimously.

The Secretary explained that there was extreme dissatisfaction among the Eastern Members over the continued use of Dallas as a host city for FRI. He suggested that using Dallas to replace Philadelphia in 2010 would mean going to Dallas two years in a row and that would cause many of the Eastern members to opt not to attend FRI and go to FDIC or Baltimore instead. Some and perhaps many might be lost to those two conferences permanently and we may also lose members.

There was a conference call of Division Secretaries (of which only two participated) and John Wood from New England was selected to be the Division representative on the Chicago site visit. I am confident John will do a good job and be very objective.

EDIAFC Conference

Mark Showmaker reported that a few sponsors were obtained during the FRI Conference and he has obtained others locally. Sponsors are posted on the web site. All Board Members need to assist in soliciting additional sponsors.

The Secretary reported that VFIS has committed to \$5,000.00 and ACS to \$3,500.00 and that a letter was sent to ICC asking for them to renew their sponsorship of \$1,500.00. ICC responded they will be a sponsor. He stressed that the entire Board need to pursue sponsors for the conference.

Mark and Bill met with the hotel and the Convention Bureau in York on November 16th. Room blocks were set at 75 per night. All food events were reviewed and a final commitment will be forthcoming from the hotel. They will also submit a proposal for a Healthier break menu. All of the event rooms were walked through and approved. The hotel will send an event sheet for our approval. They will also be sending spa packages and golf packages.

We will be allowed to bring in video projectors at a savings of \$300.00 per day and help is needed to secure two projectors for the event. The hotel will provide screens, flags podiums and sound where needed.

The banquet will be a cash bar unless sponsors can be found to support a cocktail hour or open bar for the evening.

The Convention bureau has agree to provide bags with various informational material and a person to staff registration on Thursday afternoon, Friday and Saturday during registration hours. The ladies program is near finalization and the bureau is getting new contract proposals for buses.

The Harley tours will be a t two times with 72 people per tour. A third can be added is needed. During the tours, attendees will be free to play morning golf or visit some outdoors demonstrations while they are not on one of the tours. We will have outdoor space for apparatus if vendors wish to bring them.

The partners program will be a winery tour, tasting and lunch. The winery is about 30 minutes by bus and is a beautiful site, built like a French Chateau on a hill over a river in Columbia PA.

Weather permitting the lunch would be outdoors on the terrace patio, but there is a provision for indoors as well.

The Saturday program is a 15 minute bus trip to Morningstar Markets which include a farmer market, antique market and flea market all on one property. Lunch will be on your own and there are numerous venues available for that. The ladies will leave at 1:00 and will also be able to partake in the sponsored BBQ lunch at the hotel with their spouses before they leave.

Greg Cade from the USFA has been invited to attend as the Keynote Speaker. A full list of speakers is on the web site.

The Secretary will be handling the registrations, name tags and sending confirmations to attendees. Confirmations will also provide useful info about reservations for golf, spa and dinner and safety requirements for shoes at Harley.

It is recommended that registration be \$100.00 for members and \$125.00 for non members for the conference. For that the attendee gets educational programs, demonstrations, the Harley Tour, breaks and lunch on Saturday. All other meals are on your own.

Banquet tickets are recommended to be \$40.00 per person and must be bought separately. This is necessary because of the loss of Philadelphia Convention Bureau as a major sponsor.

The cost of the partners program still needs to be determined and will be based on our costs for buses, for lunch on Friday and any fees charged by the winery which will likely be \$5.00 per person. Any sponsors for the program will naturally reduce the cost.

Help is needed with the Memorial Program. Les usually puts that together each year and does a great job, but this year more help is needed. In addition to setting up the program, help is needed in getting a chaplain, an honor guard and arranging for a floral wreath. It is hoped that we can get a local honor guard and chaplain.

Correspondence

The secretary reported the EDIAFC received thank you letters from PFESI for the ad taken in their dinner program and from the IAFC Foundation and the family of Ron Hutchings for the donation made in Ron's name to the IAFCF

Leadership Summit

Bob Stahl, Bill Walton, Jack Gouty, George Maney, Pete Mellits and Bill Askenstedt all attended the Leadership Summit. The secretary reported that there were some good presentations, but a lot of the program was not relevant and some programs were repeats of prior years. He suggested that in the future we may not wish to send so many people to the summit.

The secretary also reported that the Division Task Force held their first meeting at the Summit. It was poorly organized. There were not clear goals and objectives outlined and there were too many

ideas to concentrate on, given the limited time that the Task Force had to make decisions. The Task Force will have three teleconferences over the next three months. The Presidents, Secretaries and International Directors from each Division make up the Task Force.

The Secretary stated he was concerned by the motivation for the Task Force. He stated that he felt it was completely inappropriate, that a memo from IAFC legal council to Mark Light was distributed at the meeting. The memo basically stated the legal opinion of the council, that the IAFC had authority over the Divisions, even though the Divisions were their own separate corporations. The Secretary felt that a legal opinion memo was not a good lead in to an attempt to get cooperation and cohesiveness.

Task Force Conference Call

The President stated that there have been no minutes since the first conference call. He said the call was not well organized. There is a nothing call next week.

Conference Call Costs

The Secretary reported that conference calls cost about \$100.00 per month, based on how many people sign on and how long they last. In 2007, we were only billed twice so far and in 2005 and 2006 only once in each year. That resulted in savings of over \$1,000.00 per year and seems to be only the result of a very incompetent finance department.

The Secretary stated he believes the reason that the conference call numbers were switched was that IAFC staff had no idea who was using the conference line and when, and that it was likely they were losing thousands as a result of billing errors. It is likely that all of the Divisions and Sections and other users were experiencing our billing fortunes. Now it appears that there may be an attempt by the IAFC to get things in order and we may actually see a large cost increase for our conference calls. Under the new system, each user group has their own call number, so it should be very easy to track who uses the system and therefore to properly bill.

With that in mind, we should still use the system, because it is far cheaper than meetings. On the other hand, we should now be even more conscious to use the system for necessary business and avoid side bar conversations that are of no value and will rack of charges for the calls.

On another note related to the same subject, it is quite scary to know that in our very small relationship to the IAFC finance department, there is so much lacking in accuracy and competence. Other examples include the fact that we have yet to be billed for the Dallas Breakfast, it takes 6 weeks to get paid for monthly dues, and checks sent to the IAFC for things like On Scene and other bills generally take 4-6 weeks to get deposited and clear are bank.

It is frightening to think that major exhibitors and vendors may also have yet to be billed for FRI expenses and how much interest revenue we are losing. It is even scarier to think that other entities are only billed for 10% of their charges like we are with the conference calls, or how much interest

the IAFC might be paying on Credit Cards and other billing if it takes so long for them to pay those bills.

Fire GPO

We have received a check for the 3rd quarter royalties in the amount of \$2,458.56. Of that amount \$1,683.53 is the EDIAFC portion with the remainder split among the states. Our GPO revenue is on track to exceed \$5,000.00 for the fiscal year, not including what we distribute to the states.

There have been no GPO reports from the liaison, Jim Seavey since he resumed his duties as the liaison.

Despite providing \$690.00 of GPO revenue to the Keystone Chiefs in 2007, we received a letter saying they could not provide the \$500.00 sponsorship for the conference which was requested this year and instead they sent a check for a \$250.00 sponsorship. The Keystone continues to reap benefits of the GPO while it provides little support or participation in the EDIAFC.

2008 IAFC 2nd VP Candidates

The Secretary reported that Kelvin Cochran resigned as IAFC 1st VP and has been replaced by Larry Goroud.. Jeff Johnson the only announced Candidate for 2nd VP was appointed by the IAFC Board to assume the roll of 2nd VP immediately. It is unfortunate, because both of these good men will lose a year on the Executive Board.

It is unfortunate that Chief Cochran abandoned his commitment to the Association for another job, but perhaps it is for the better of the IAFC overall.

The situation now arises that there is a need to elect a new 2nd VP and the IAFC had re-opened nominations until February 1st for the position of IAFC 2nd VP for 2008. So far, the only announced candidate for the job is Chief Jack Parrow from New England. Jack ran against Jeff Johnson in the first race and lost. Jack had now asked for our support in his second attempt top run. He has also asked to attend a Board meeting or conference call to express his interest and positions.

The Secretary recommended that we allow Jack to address the Board on our January conference call.

The President recommended that we now endorse any candidate until after the February 1 deadline for candidates so that we can know who else might be running.

Mark Showmaker made a **motion** to endorse Jack Parrow for 2nd Vice President of the IAFC in 2008. Cohan seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

It was decided that Jack could address the Board on the February call after closing of the nominations and that the Board would provide the same opportunity to any subsequent candidates that declared their intentions to run.

EDIAFC Board Meeting

The president suggested that the Board Meet in late January or early February, perhaps in Evesham. The Secretary suggested that perhaps the Board could meet in York, the site of the 2008 conference. There was a **motion** by Showmaker and a second by Gouty to hold a meeting in January in Evesham. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

The Board decided to invite the 5 states to attend. The President will set up an agenda. The agenda will be distributed. To the state directors to give to their associations when they ask them to attend.

The president will send out some potential dates for the January Board Meeting.

Web Site

The President recommended that the Board have a disclosure statement on the Division Web Site. The Board discussed the need for the statement and the content of the statement.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.