**ACF Upper Michigan Culinarians**

Board of Directors Meeting

January 31, 2022 – 6:00 p.m. – EST

Northern Michigan University – Northern Lights Cafeteria

**Present:** Eric Juchemich, Acting Chair; Cotanche; Chris Durley, Nichole Durley-Rust, CEC; Derek Estes, Alden Griffus, CCC; Robin Holmes, CEC; Alex Palzewicz; Chris Sturzl, CEC, CCE; Susan Tollefson; Angela Verburg. Guests: Tony Tollefson, Erin Turner

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

1. Chapter Status
   1. New Membership Levels. The national ACF lists a member level as “Professional”. Our by-laws list them as “Active”. We will change our by-laws to indicate these members as “Professional”.
   2. New Members/KBOCC junior members. We are pleased to announce that we have 10 new junior members from the Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College. Welcome!!
2. Financial Reports
   1. Bank Statements/current levels. Robin reported that we currently have $21,118.12 in our checking account. He stated that we need to create a budget for 2022.
   2. New profit-and loss statements. The merits for a budget and profit and loss sheet for each of our individual events (Blue Berry Fest, COY dinner, etc.) were discussed. Chris D. volunteered to create the necessary forms to make this happen.
   3. Projected future expenditures. This was not discussed.
3. Old Business
   1. Certification Update. Certification testing was scheduled for may at the NMU Jacobetti Center. Due to the renovation and move of the program from Jacobetti to the Northern Center during this time; we won’t have a certified facility to conduct the testing. Chris S. and Eric K. are checking with Michigan Tech for their ability to host the testing. Chris Kibit has agreed to remain as administrator for the certification exam at NMU. We currently have three members interested in taking the test.
   2. Letter to NMU in support of the Hospitality Program. Loganne G. asked the chapter to write a letter of support for the Hospitality Program to maintain or exceed what we currently have as the program is moved to The Northern Center. Loganne reported that NMU is giving her what she has requested so the letter is not necessary at this time.
   3. Current Number of Board Members/Upcoming Elections. All current board members are into present tonight. Elections for several positions will be held at the end of this year: Chair, Financial Officer and Sargent of Arms. Juke, as current chair of the Chapter will move Chris S. position as Chair of the Board. Please consider putting your name in for a position.
   4. Chapter family event for summer of 2022. In the past, we have held an annual member/family event which brought out a lot of members. We no longer have that venue available so we will be looking for a new one. Juke said he would be willing to host an event at his house and also suggested the Negaunee Township Hall; Tony T. will check with Al Quaal Recreation area and Lake Bancroft for availability and prices.
4. New Business
   1. Chapter Survey Results. Chris D. reported that he received 10 responses to the survey. Copies of the survey results were distributed and discussed. Overall, is was felt that the responses were honest and the reflected that the chapter is stagnant and changes need to be made. Highlights include allowing members to speak up at meetings more freely, restrict board meetings to issues that need approval, condense the general membership agenda, move educational presentation to beginning of the meeting (and offer a meal at this time). To this end, Chris D. distributed proposed changes to the Board meeting and the general meeting. We also would need to update our by-laws to reflect some of these changes. Alden offered to put the changed on a Google doc and send out to board members for approval and then brought to the membership for a vote.
   2. Awards and Requirements. Several suggestions were made for our current “Chef of the Year” award. Chris D. presented changes that would include changing “Chef” to “Culinarian”; reducing the participation in meetings from 75% to 50% (Zoom attendance would now qualify for this quota); and adding a cooking competition for the nominees. This competition would be open to the public as would the Culinarian of the Year dinner. The winner to be name “Culinarian of the Year”. Chris also added “Hospitalitarian of the Year” and description of the criteria. These changes will be presented to the membership for a vote.
   3. Items included in the meeting and the order. Several items now included on the agenda, i.e., certifications, chapter demographics and treasurer’s report will be taken off the agenda and listed on the bottom as information.
   4. Backyard BBQ Competition. Hosting a Backyard BBQ Competition as discussed. Thoughts include: anyone in the area can compete; Negaunee Township Hall was brought up as a desirable host site; The Captain of the Negaunee Fire Department and a member from the ACF UP chapter would be judges; we would charge an entry fee (competitors would decide whether or not they would sell their BBQ to the public) and admission fee for the general public to attend; we would need a Serv Safe certified person to oversee the event and we would contact the Health Department for regulations for on-site food preparation. Any further thoughts and ideas would be welcome. We would hopefully hold this event this summer.

A motion was made and seconded (Juke/Alden) to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Susan Tollefson

Secretary