

American Italian Federation of the Southeast
Quarterly Meeting September 26, 2011
Drusilla Seafood Restaurant in Baton Rouge

Call to order at 1:19 PM

President Victor Musso welcomed members and invited guests

Present by roll call sign in sheet:

Officers Victor Musso, Chuck Anselmo, Cecile Scialdone, Dom Grieshaber, Joe DiStefano, Joseph Piccione, Lou Lato.

Member Organizations AICC & St. Lucy-Bette Cadwell; Bocce Club-Glade Bilby, Sal Christiana; Cefalutana-Sal Serio; Contessa Entellina-John Bruno, Gasper Schiro, Sandra Bruno, Mel Schiro, Beth Klein, Cheryl Hentze; Contessa Entellina HS-Joyas Lucas; GBRAIA-Anthony Musso, Carolyn Musso, Marion Territo; IAC Lafayette-Cyndie Anselmo, Josephine Piccione; IASJ-Dennis Hausser, Giuseppe Cacioppo; IASJ AUX-Antoinette Hausser, Genevieve Harris; EJIAS-Maria Falco,

Treasurer Report Joseph Piccione made Treasurer report. Motion to approve report by Sal Serio second by Dennis Houser and so approved.

Gasper Schiro raised discussion on cost of flower arrangements for Sal Panzeca and Guy Lato's funerals, informing those present that his society uses Adrian Christian Florists and recommend that the Federation look into less expensive arrangements in the future.

Executive Vice-President Joseph DiStefano answered this with informing those present that the Federation has been using the same florist for many years. They support the convention booklet with ads for many years and that the Federation should support that business that support us. There was no further discussion in regards to this topic. Delegates present were in agreement with this response.

Chairman of the Board Chuck Anselmo thanked the convention committee especially on the convention booklets success, well over 15 years for the bottom line. Tremendously successful convention.

Joseph DiStefano also gave a report on how difficult it was this year to obtain ads for the book. Membership dues do not cover much of anything especially the cost of hosting a convention. Maria Falco thanked Joe DiStefano and Betty Caldwell.

Chuck Anselmo spoke to the clubs who are entitled to reimbursement for ads sold. Joe spoke to this regarding a meeting held in establishing this incentive, with Sal & Chuck, held in the Italian Hall, decided if we were to obtain ads at a cut price of the ads due to not having orders so close to deadline, and for every add sold 10 percent would go back to any club who sold ads however, a lot of clubs did not take ads or sell them.

Chuck spoke out regarding that since there was not a lot happening from the clubs that the board felt there should not have been a commission. No one took the incentive and apologized if he is

offending anyone, however if anyone here at this meeting feels that your organization should receive the incentive see Joe Piccione

Gasper Schiro made a resolution motion congratulating those and commending convention committee fine job of income generated AIFESE and attaché committee names and that the president should send a letter to all members. This was seconded by Maria Falco

Old business:

President Victor Musso will have Amanda Broome; send a letter for all clubs to update their information (i.e. address, phone etc with delegate's officers)

Joseph DiStefano: We need to have a mail out list to all organizations with a form listing their officers with information. A letter not an email address to club presidents with date of return and her number as a contact for the list. He thanked Maria for the initial list

Number of delegates: Delegates per membership - 1 for 50 members up to 5. President and Vice President should be automatic if they want to be and should attend the quarterly meetings

Betty Caldwell recommended that ad prices be set a year in advance for everyone to notice and place in budget.

President Victor Musso introduce Robert Lyall, Director of the Opera and finance committee. Celebrate Sal Panzeca's life and his love for Opera and preservation of the Italian arts one project is the Italian ticket fund intro to the arts represented due to Maria Falco who is on the board. With his death in July and to honor Sal Panzeca, asking for something to memorialize 3 major productions of Italian Opera, Mask Ball in New Orleans is one. Join in some form of contribution to the opera association, encouraged to enjoy the experience and send to the school systems in various areas, more realistic endeavors might come to this program? Sunday matinee. Ticket program for federation discounted tickets and children family. Richness of Italian culture through the opera.

He put forth a proposal for discounted tickets that federation members could purchase. Also asked that everyone would see if your clubs would like this idea and set an initial amount from them and the Federation to set an amount. Any and all members 24 clubs 3000 memberships

Sal Christiana brought up motion that an Initial figure for set up on the tickets by the Federation be \$5000 pending the approval by membership and second Maria Falco.

Discussion by Joe Piccione that everyone needs to go back and let your clubs see if they are interested and if they would be willing to donate \$200 to \$400.

Chuck Anselmo point of order discussion was that this was like a cart before the horse, too much to set up first. Something can be done at a different time. Let this go back to your clubs for benefit for the membership. Other business we need to take care of first. He amend motion to read that this be tabled until later discussion with member organizations. Seconded by Maria Villafranco. This motion passed.

Previous opera discussion to gets feedback from clubs in their desire to participate and email Victor Musso.

Victor Musso discussed the meeting with regards to Sal Panzeca funeral donation and board agreed to this concept in name of AIFDSE and cofounder Sal Panzeca a one time partial scholarship to Tulane University. Amy Prfimmer at Tulane to select candidate and the Opera Association would handle this paper work. Robert Lyall would be happy to take on this endeavor. Advisory capacity with Amy Prfimmer, Director of Vocal Studies at Tulane. Fully endorsed this concept to recognizes Sal Panzeca. Amy changed their department chair they have channels to go through for designated gift.

Gasper Schiro wanted Loyola to be included. Chuck discussion promote the Federation through the opera association all three entities is it complicated to go through you his role is purely advisory. Publicity opera will be the endorser and will participate with presentation.

Motion made by Chuck Anselmo \$1000 for scholarship Joe Piccione second passed.

Victor Musso asked the group present if anyone would consider a nomination for recording secretary position. No candidates none at this time.

Maria Falco spoke on a non profit endowment to enhance website at no cost to us. Charter Word press their upgraded with dreamweaver, she doesn't know how to apply and build website to worked with Victor Musso said Nicoletta Giannico web site developer from LSU is going to take over. Advantage will be that all members can go to website as interactive direct links to individual clubs. Victor Musso made motion for Nicoletta Giannico to be approved as Webmaster and Maria Falco second. Members approved.

Dominick Grieshaber: Additional scholarship for \$1000 a student not connected with sports and presented in January memory of Joe Maselli? This year the grandson of Sal may be considered to receive the Maseli scholarship? Chuck explained use of venue. We have no connection with awarding Sports Hall of Fame scholarship.

Joe Piccione: Income tax wise not sure unless you have several applicants. We can not name a recipient before panel approves Joe Maselli scholarship. Renaissance Foundation committee picks the 5 scholarship recipients.

We maintain a neutral position just use their venue for awards. This was done three years ago. American Italian Federation President has to present at the dinner to present a scholarship..

Guest Dr Greg Stone, Distinguished Professor of Italian Studies at LSU: The Federation used to support LSU student organization. A student summer program in Italy considers scholarships. Would like to get together and speak about this.

Guest Vincent Dispenza, President ASSOCIAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE ALIESI: Good to be back to meeting. Spearheaded the donations for the Christopher Columbus memorial in Baton Rouge by New Orleans sculptor Franco Alessandrini. Our American Italian Federation collected donations

to establish the Professorship of Italian Studies at LSU. Once established the program guarantees support to annually fund this professorship by State of Louisiana and LSU. Chuck Anselmo was in office. Gino Scialdone finished it up.

Joyce Lucas group wants to go to Italy and anyone who wants to go to join group forming tour of Sicily. Use her email for information.

Maria Falco thanks Bette Cadwell for the opportunity to write articles in the Italian American Digest including her article on the Unification of Italy and is now printed in booklet form. Contact Maria.

Bocce Club of Greater New Orleans offered to host the next AIFEDSE quarterly meeting at their club in Metairie at 2340 Severn Avenue.

Tickets available to Saints Football Game December 4, Sunday and dinner for two at \$5 a chance, 40 yard line tickets.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn.

Accepted report

Secretary Amanda Broome (absent) minutes recorded by Cecile Scialdone 3rd Vice President