



**FOODSERVICE CONSULTANTS SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL**  
**WORLDWIDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**25<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**  
**Conference Call**

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**In Attendance**

Officers

*Mr. William Caruso, FFCSI, PP  
President  
(WC & Partners, Inc.)*

*Mr. Mario Sequeira, FCSI  
Secretary/Treasurer  
(Hospitality Total Services (Aus) Pty Ltd)*

Staff

*Mr. Nick Vaccaro  
Executive Administrator, WW*

Directors

*Mrs. Clara Pi, FFCSI  
(FCG Company Ltd.)*

*Mr. Eric Norman, FCSI  
(Clevenger Associates)*

Allied Representatives

*Mr. Mick Jary  
Meiko UK Limited*

*Mr. Jack Scott  
(Alto-Shaam, Inc.)*

Absent

*Mr. Remko van der Graaff, FCSI  
(AAG Food & Facilities & Hospitality)*

*Mr. Greg O'Connell  
(Moffat)*

## **FCSI's Vision**

**“FCSI is the global leader in foodservice and hospitality consulting”**

## **FCSI's Mission**

**“To promote professionalism in foodservice and hospitality consulting while returning maximum benefits to all members”**

## **Brand Slogan**

***“We Share, We Support, We Inspire”***

### **1.0 Call to Order and Opening Remarks**

The meeting was called to order on 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7:10 am (EDT) at which time President William Caruso, FCSI welcomed everyone to the meeting. Noting that there was quorum for conducting official business Bill requested that the meeting begin with the first agenda item.

### **2.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes**

*Eric moved to accept the FCSI WW October, 2019 board meeting minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mario and approved unanimously.*

### **3.0 Local Virus Updates from Divisional Chairs**

#### **3.1 EAME**

Mick provided an update on the conditions in FCSI EAME. He said that Europe is now completely on lockdown and that the hospitality industry has been horribly negatively affected. Each country is dealing with their own issues while trying to support each other the best ways possible.

#### **3.2 TAD**

Eric reported that the conditions in the US and North America are the same as in Europe. The National Restaurant Association and most other major tradeshow have either postponed or cancelled for 2020. He added that their Clevenger Associates projects are still moving forward which is good news during these dark times.

FCSI TAD is working with allied associations in an effort to produce a webinar on the state of the industry and ways to move forward during the COVID-19 health crisis. Also TAD is hosting a webinar during March for members only to function as an open forum for members to share what they are currently experiencing.

Bill said that Mexico has not been as negatively affected by the virus as other countries. In fact business in Mexico is now being conducted as usual. This is not the case in South America where a number of countries have enacted martial law.

### **3.2 APD**

Mario reported on the big six areas of APD and how the virus is impacting each of the areas. He said that some of the areas are getting better and business is beginning to pick back up.

Clara said that things are things had been getting better in Hong Kong and China but imported cases are reported. So the government has decided to shut down businesses more than they did before.

## **4.0 Worldwide Strategic Planning and Board Meeting Update**

Bill thanked everyone for contributing the background materials for the strategic planning meeting. At this point the planning session is on hold until the COVID-19 issue is cleared up and then a date and location can be selected. The consensus of the board was that instead of New York City another less populated area might be best.

Bill said that a link will be provided by Nick to the Dropbox folder that contains all the materials submitted by each Division.

The decision was made that each Division will provide three volunteer representatives, plus their executive director, to participate in the meeting.

## **5.0 Update on PC Meetings**

Bill and Nick reported on the recent London meetings with FCSI WW and Progressive Content representatives. Nick reviewed the post-event report provided by PC and highlighted the key points of the meeting.

Nick will ask PC to provide an updated white paper on where we are currently based on the notes from the recent London meeting. This paper should contain a list of expectations of what PC will do with each project or part of the portfolio. In addition, Nick will check with PC on what association management software they recommend using with the new website.

Clara also asked that PC review the process of printing the labels in Chinese.

## **6.0 Divisional Conference & Events Updates**

### **3.1 EAME**

Mick reported that the EAME Conference scheduled for October 2020 has been postponed until April 2021.

### **3.2 TAD**

Eric said that the TAD Conference, originally planned for May 2020, has been rescheduled until August 2020. The location is the same.

### **3.2 APD**

Mario provided an update on activities in the APD region, including a number of tradeshow cancellations and postponements.

## **7.0 Unfinished Business**

### **7.1 Membership Survey**

Mario reported that the APD membership survey was sent to all members recently. The survey summary will be sent to the WW office to be provided to the WW Board.

Bill requested that Nick email Remko and ask that the results summary of the EAME Divisional survey be shared with the WW Board.

### **7.2 Confidentiality Agreement**

Bill requested that all WW Board members complete a confidentiality agreement. Eric and Jack said that they would send Nick a sample to revise for WW use.

## **8.0 New Business**

### **8.1 Note to the Membership from the WW Board**

Mario suggested that Bill send a letter/email to the membership on current WW activities which would highlight value added on a worldwide basis.

### **8.2 WW Conference Calls**

The decision was made to hold WW Board conference calls on a quarterly basis. Nick will look at dates for a call in approximately three months' time.

## **9.0 Adjournment**

*Eric moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mario and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 am (local time).*

*Meeting minutes recorded by N. Vaccaro on 03.26.20*