



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

**26th July, 2021
Conference Call**

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In Attendance

Officers

*Mr. William Caruso, FFCSI, PP
President
(CS Enterprises, LLC)*

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

Staff

*Mr. Nick Vaccaro
Executive Administrator, WW*

Absent

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

Directors

*Mr. Andrew Brain
(Foodservice Consultants Australia)*

*Mr. Paul Montégut
(Restauration Conseil)*

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

Allied Representatives

*Mr. Mick Jary
Meiko UK Limited*

*Mr. Greg O'Connell
(Moffat)*

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

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 26th July at 7:08 am (EDT) at which time President William Caruso, FFCSI (PP) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Noting that there was quorum for conducting official business Bill requested that the meeting begin.

2.0 The Issue/Background

Bill provided a brief background on the issues at hand. The history of the relationship between FCSI and the other organizations and how they have evolved to the current date.

3.0 Discussion

Eric said that the original TAD projects were constructed for the full worldwide audience. A form and format of intellectual property (IP) that the original task force was convened in 2010 and some of the standards were modified from existing structures and some were originated by the task force itself.

Greg asked if the original IP was ever protected by legal counsel because it was originated by FCSI, or if it was shared data and not originated by FCSI. Mick recommended that an attorney be consulted to ensure that FCSI has the right to protect the property since so much of the data is shared across many organizations globally.

Bill said that FCSI's intention was to have the program as an FCSI WW branded program with the other groups being given proper credit as producers of the product.

The question was asked what role Roberto Assi has held, or is currently holding, in the process. Paul answered that Roberto is the co-chair of IFSE as a representative of FCSI EAME. When visiting the IFSE BIM website it is clear at the bottom of the Homepage that the program is co-shared by EFCM and FCSI EAME by the presence of both logo images.

Paul said that the FCSI EAME Board is reluctant to tell EFCM that after all the joint collaboration that the IP now belongs to FCSI and not to everyone openly. FCSI EAME's stance is that the program can not be branded by any one organization, that the standards are open and free to anyone.

Bill asked for clarification if EFCM has received full endorsement from the equipment

manufacturers such as NAFEM and NAFES. The NAFEM and NAFES logos appear on the IFSE BIM website at www.ifsebim.org website. Eric said that NAFEM has now withdrawn their endorsement, for the time being, because FCSI Worldwide has not formally approved the program. Greg said that NAFES was asked to endorse the program and decided to endorse the standards based on Keith Warren saying that FCSI and NAFEM had already endorsed the standards.

Paul said that the FCSI EAME Board of Trustees agrees that the formal final endorsement of the program must be done by FCSI Worldwide. That it can not be ultimately finalized by FCSI EAME or another FCSI division.

Mick recommended that heads of each of the individual associations that have a stake in the final results, meet to discuss recommendations on how to proceed. This would also include legal representation to confirm that all legal options are being considered. Perhaps a board of governance be constructed with a representative from each of the parties.

Andrew said that all the information the board has been reviewing is a culmination of information and insight of what has been covered in the past. He said the intent by the joint committee of Joe S., Roberto A. and himself was to take some of the information originally produced by TAD and then create a revised document and release it free worldwide. The document (list) is a recommendation of what families are needed by consultants for use during design projects. The worldwide document was an intent to cover off on at least 80% of what consultants from around the world would need to complete projects. The intellectual property is actually the discussions had by the committee, not the final list of standards. He added the committee is ready to provide a document to the FCSI Worldwide Board for review/approval. A list of standards that as consultants are required by manufacturers for consultants to complete projects.

Mario said that that it is important to consider what motivates each of the organizations included in the joint project. And how each group's motivations can work together to produce a final product.

Paul stated that IFSE is not an official association only a group of people who have come together for the project.

Bill asked why the EAME Board approved the EAME logo to be used in conjunction with IFSE on the IFSE website and on letterhead. Paul answered that he was not aware of any official approval by EAME for their logo to be used in partnership with IFSE.

Bill mentioned that Joe S. is scheduled to present many of the key points of this projects during a presentation at the upcoming TAD Symposium during the NAFEM conference. He has spoken with Joe recently and Joe is concerned about anyone stopping or attempting to slow the process because of the momentum produced thus far. However, one key point is that the manufacturers from the various worldwide associations like NAFEM, have not officially had an opportunity to review the list and provide comment on the program.

Andrew recommended that what has been produced thus far be shared with all involved organizations for review and comment.

Bill said that he is not able to trust IFSE, or their representatives, because of what has

transpired to date.

Greg asked for clarification on whether Roberto A. was officially representing FCSI EAME or another group in his involvement with the joint BIM/Revit committee. Paul responded saying that to his knowledge that Roberto has always represented FCSI EAME and not FCSI Worldwide or any particular manufacturing organization. In fact Roberto has been acting mostly alone and without regular oversight by the FCSI EAME Board of Trustees.

Mario recommended that Paul, as a representative of EAME, communicate with IFSE and request that their logo and name not be used as an endorsement.

Paul said that he will write to Roberto and ask that no EAME presentation on standards be given at NAFEM because FCSI WW is presenting during the TAD Symposium.

Eric proposed two options going forward:

- 1) Cooperative written agreement with IFSE that we work together with no future decisions being made without joint meetings and conversations and approval from all groups.
- 2) Reject IFSE and continue with our current standards and develop parameters based on previous FCSI work.

Eric and Greg stressed the need for FCSI WW to now step in and take control of the project.

Bill encouraged a call be scheduled with Bill, Nick, Greg, Mick and Jack, as allied representatives, with the three committee members and FCSI divisional representatives to speak on FCSI's behalf with EFCEM and Keith Warren to ensure that FCSI WW will brand the standards. This is not the parameters, only the standards.

There was discussion on how the committee will continue with the possibility of having two representatives per division, one consultant and one allied. The standards will be a living document which is regularly revised based on input from committee members.

After a call with everyone participating Bill will draft an official letter to Keith Warren to layout FCSI Worldwide's recommendations on how to proceed.

Bill asked Eric to touch base with Joe S. and ask him to send a draft of the TAD Symposium presentation to the WW Board. That way all WW Board members are aware can review the key points of what is presented at NAFEM.

Bill asked Andrew to send the goals and current list of standards which have been constructed by the committee to the WW Board members, through Nick.

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 am (local time).

Meeting minutes recorded by N. Vaccaro on 07.28.21