



A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Slow Food USA  
Chicago  
March 8-9, 2007  
Approved

**Board Members in Attendance:** Allen Katz, Peter DeGarmo, Chris Carpenter, Eleanor Bertino, Lynne Frame, Erika Lesser, Jeffrey Roberts, Paolo di Croce, Lizz Hund

**Absent:** Lynn Eve Komaromi

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Gina Fiorillo-Brady, Jerusha Klemperer, Makalé Faber, Silvia Monasterolo

**Guests:** Sarah Weiner, Joel Smith

**MOTIONS:**

1. Approval of Minutes of January 17 meeting.
2. Approval of Farm Bill Proposed Position Statement (p. 2-4) drafted by Michael Dimock with wordsmithing by Allen and Erika.
3. Approval of Proposed Stated Plan of Action (p. 4-5) with wordsmithing by Allen and Erika. Lizz Hund in abstention.
4. Approval of Michael Dimock being added to Advisory Board as chair emeritus, no longer ex officio.

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 8, 2007**

1. **Executive Director's Report – presented by Erika Lesser**
  - a. Presented updated staff roles and office structure, including 2 new part-time staff members.
  - b. Posed question to board on SFUSA priorities
2. **Development Report & Dialogue – presented/led by Gina Fiorillo-Brady, Erika Lesser, Lynn Eve Komaromi**
  - a. On-target with 2007 fundraising benchmarks
  - b. Discussion on partnering with corporations staff to review strategy/relationship for pilot events
  - c. Carlo Tour calendar has been set and will be sent out to leaders.
3. **SFI Report – presented by Paolo DiCroce**
  - a. Preliminary discussion on the change in membership structure, and the contributions to SFI and FBD from national offices. Established committee of board, governors and members to evaluate and discuss procedure for changes.
  - b. Began discussion of eliminating Slow and replacing it with one annual publication, i.e., Almanac. Establish task force to set up draft action plan – involve board, governors, but also need to involve people external to our organization to get a broader perspective.
  - c. Change international board and councilors to include people who are more in touch with the movement.
  - d. International Congress will take place in Puebla, Mexico, November 9-11, 2007. 750 people in attendance. Based on number of members per association on 5/31, plus observers and media. Every delegate pays for travel to Mexico City (or Puebla). Each country decides own delegate selection criteria.

- e. Eighty delegates from the US - \$40,000 in costs for them to attend. Time frame to be set to evaluate national office/local fundraising efforts
4. **Finance Report & Dialogue presented/led by Erika Lesser & Jeff Roberts**
- a. Proposal for extension of long-term SFI debt repayment from two years to four to Paolo by end of March, as well as current account payables
5. **Board Development**
- a. Open discussion of potential new board members
  - b. Josh Viertel approved to be invited as board member
  - c. Poppy Tooker approved to be invited as a board member, following due diligence
  - d. Erika Lesser to approach Winona LaDuke as advisory board member
6. **2007 Board Giving Update**
- a. Board members to submit completed forms to Gina by 3/30/07
7. **Unfinished Business**
- a. Terra Madre Relief Fund: although we are not actively soliciting for this fund, it will remain as a non-endowed fund and we have set in place a committee to determine distribution of any funds received on an annual basis.

Friday, March 9

8. **2007 Forum Overview and Expectations**
- a. Discussion on the role of governors, expectations and current performance.
9. **SFUSA Program Report presented by Makalé Faber**
- a. Desire to connect membership and programs more intimately
  - b. Posed question on long term stability of presidia projects and role within SFUSA
10. **Slow Food Nation/SFUSA Congress Reports presented/led by Sarah Weiner, Lynne Frame & Eleanor Bertino**
- a. Final contract negotiations for Project Director - Eric McDougal.
  - b. Currently in second phase of fundraising, approaching individuals. Next phase: corporate sponsorship will take place starting in May.
  - c. Timeline for 2007: launching website, getting informational materials developed prior to May; press conference with Carlo announcing event on 5/10.
  - d. Sarah to serve as liaison and provide monthly communication/status report the first of every month, with first one due April 1, 2007.
  - e. Board discussion on content for Slow Food Nation to be inclusive of convivia, and national producers and how to involve the Congress as part of Slow Food Nation
11. **Farm Bill**
- a. Allen and Erika to fine-tune language contained in Farm Bill "Adopted Proposed Position Statement and Proposed Stated Action Plan"
12. **New Business and Review Action Items**
13. **Open Dialogue**
- a. Discussion on the role and structure of the advisory board.
  - b. Allen to issue invitation to Michael Dimock to serve on Advisory Board as Chair Emeritus