

**Texas Gulf Coast BBQ Cookers Association
Minutes – Regular Membership Meeting
Tuesday, January 6, 2009 – Valley Ranch Grill & BBQ**

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by President Glenn Jarrett.

The new board introduced themselves.

The minutes from the TGBCA Regular Membership Meeting held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008, were published in the Meeting Notice. A motion was made by Sandy Babcock and seconded by Craig Sharry to accept the minutes as published. The motion passed.

General Business

Don Canterbury welcomed everyone and encouraged all members to participate in more cook offs.

Roycie Raspberry reported that two cook offs will be sanctioned starting this year. They are: Nachadoches (formerly DoDat?), which will be held Sept. 18th & 19th, and American Legion, across from Ellington.

Glenn Jarrett reported on items discussed at the board meeting.

- Membership renewals for eligibility for the invitational have been to 2/28/2009. However, cooker points hinge on when dues are paid; so cookers need to have paid their dues in order to accrue points towards Cooker of the Year, etc.
- Cookers will pay for their cabins/camp sites directly to the KOA campground this year instead of through the organization
- Helen & Craig to send out the invitational details by then end of January

New Business

Bobby Blankenship is the promoter for the Humble rodeo, the money needs to be in soon; prize money is in the \$10,000.00 range; there is a kids que.

Sandy Babcock mentioned Hold'em & Hit'em is coming up January 16th & 17th.

Craig Sharry congratulated Jared Burns & Lang Chapman of Bull of the Woods Cookers, Howard & Teresa Muniz of Orange Maple Cookers and John Rosas of Grillz Gone Wild for their attendance at two membership meetings and encouraged them to keep on coming.

Craig also talked about the website... last year TGBCA paid \$750.00 for a voting product so that out of town members would be able to vote without having to attend the meetings in person. Of the 3 times the product was used, membership participation was not above 60%; a participation of 37% for the officer election was particularly disappointing. Renewal of this product is coming up and Craig feels the cost versus the use is not warranted. A reduced version of the product for \$500.00/yr might be an option, but still not warranted if there aren't enough issues requiring a vote. Another possibility is that he and Jeremy (Bull of the Woods) have discussed the possibility of putting together a voting product for our website themselves... He then made a motion to not renew the contract for the voting product in February. Rich Robin seconded it. The motion passed.

Sandy Babcock mentioned that for the next election we will go back to mail out ballots.

Bobby Blankenship asked if anyone had any ideas on how to get new members...

- Sandy Babcock suggested a calling program
- Roycie Raspberry said she'd had more success sending out notes with a self addressed stamped envelope included

The newer members were polled as to whether the membership dues were reasonable, etc. those attending said they felt the dues were very reasonable. They did ask why lifetime memberships were not available in this

organization... it was explained that when we broke away from IBCA the decision was made to grandfather in the current lifetime members. However, these members would still pay yearly dues, albeit lower than those of the regular membership. It was a financial decision not to continue the practice of allowing lifetime memberships to be bought.

Advertising was brought up as a way of bring money in. Currently we have 4 sponsors: they pay \$75.00/mo to be on our sponsor page in the BBQ news and \$25.00/mo to be on our website. It was stated that cookers are the best ones to promote sanctioning to an event promoter or to encourage people to sponsor and ad.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

The next regular membership meeting is Tuesday, April 7th, at 7:00 pm at Valley Ranch Grill & BBQ.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Lutringer, Secretary
Texas Gulf Coast BBQ Cookers Association