

Food Packaging PDG

Members Present: Albert Elboudwarej, Linda Leake, Chuck Czuprynski, Harold Ewell, Tony Flood, Gordon Hayburn and Helen Taylor.

Board/Staff Members Present: Alejandro Mazotta.

New Members: Brandi Baros, Ken Davenport, Jessica Jones, Jeff Tazelaar and Darren Toczko.

Guest: Lindsay Armstrong Mitchell.

Meeting Called to Order: 8:00 a.m., Sunday July 22, 2012.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Linda Leake.

Albert Elboudwarej asked for introductions. He then reviewed the IAFP antitrust guidelines with those in attendance.

Old Business: Albert Elboudwarej reviewed the packaging symposium scheduled for Monday morning:

- Food Packaging Sustainability: Food Safety with Sustainable Packaging (in collaboration with the Food Chemical Hazards and Food Allergy PDG) is organized and will be convened by Albert Elboudwarej, Harold Ewell and Linda Leake.
- Tuesday Morning there will be a roundtable: Microbiological Safety of Chilled ESL, Acidified and Low -/High-acid Beverage Products. Albert Elboudwarej is a participant.

Roger Bont will not be able to speak in the first slot due to illness. Alternate plans for the time slot of 8:30-9:00 a.m. were discussed. Alejandro Mazzotta suggested using that time to ask the audience what information they would like covered in the future relative to food packaging.

New Business: Alejandro Mazzotta introduced himself as the new Board Liaison to this PDG. He asked the members if they were interested in starting a google discussion group for the PDG.

Albert Elboudwarej stated that he is starting a Food Packaging Professional Development Group on LinkedIn. Albert then asked the members if they had any ideas to share regarding activities for the coming year, including symposia and webinars, etc. No ideas were expressed at that time.

Albert encouraged all the members to invite students to get involved with our PDG. A discussion was conducted on how to reach out to students.

A discussion was conducted by the members regarding topics of interest and emerging topics relative to packaging. These include heavy metals and nanotechnology.

Harold Ewell suggested that our PDG reach out to packaging manufacturers and encourage them to get involved with our PDG.

Linda Leake introduced Gordon Hayburn, Technical Director (Agri-Foods) Americas at QMI-SAI Global, Toronto, who delivered a presentation titled "An Auditor's Guide to GFSI Benchmarked Standards for Food Packaging." During his presentation, Gordon suggested developing a symposium for 2013 on GFSI Food Packaging standards. Helen Taylor said she was interested in this topic, as well. Gordon and Helen expressed a willingness to proceed with this proposal. After his presentation, Gordon suggested that this PDG propose a pre-IAFP Annual Meeting workshop on Food Packaging auditing standards.

Linda Leake introduced Lindsay Armstrong Mitchell, Sales and Marketing Manager of A. B. Munroe Dairy, East Providence, RI, who spoke on "From the Moo to You: A. B. Munroe Dairy Has Been Delivering Safe, Quality Bottled Milk to Customers' Doors since 1881."

The deadline for proposals for symposia, roundtables and workshops the 2013 Annual Meeting is Tuesday October 16, 2012 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Schedule this PDG meeting later in the day on Sunday for 2013. Since this PDG is young and growing, attendance is deterred by this early start time when so many attendees, including established PDG members, have not yet arrived at the Annual Meeting.

Next Meeting Date: Sunday, July 28, 2013, Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson: Albert Elboudwarej.