

Subj: Minutes of ACBL Unit 361 Board Meeting
Date: 2/01/2014
In Attendance: Board members: Joan Kushner, Bill Beard, Margaret Devere, Jeanne Achziger,
Marilyn Ballon, Bonnie Smith.
District Representatives: Flo Newlin
Legal Advisor: Forest Clark

The meeting was called to order by President Joan Kushner

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

One correction was made to the January minutes: John Gallagher will not be available to co-chair the Front Range Challenge. The minutes were then approved with the correction included.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lori Beard was not present. The report was given by Bill Beard in her absence. Lori Beard requests that e-mails be sent to her regarding expenditures and costs of all items. In order to keep accurate records, the e-mails should be sent on a timely basis and all receipts for expenditures should be saved and given to her as well. A copy of the Balance Sheet as of January 28th was given to all present. Total liabilities and equity is \$98,024.32. As well, the Profit and Loss Statement from January 1-28th was also included. The statement reflected a net income of -\$193.23 for that period of time.

An explanation as to the increase of \$1000.00 in director costs for the January Sectional tournament was given:

There were 26 sessions as compared to 22 sessions previously and this accounted for an increase of \$650.00; travel costs, hotels, etc. accounted for the remaining \$350.00.

The tournament was a great success. The director set up the pair games as fairly as possible by having more sections to allow for more "across the field" scoring.

The report was accepted by all present.

JANUARY, 2014 SECTIONAL REPORT

HOSPITALITY:

Jeanne Achziger reported that the hospitality went well. One problem encountered was that some of the people were not aware that a vegetarian dish was available. A sign will be posted at the next Sectional to correct this problem. Small yogurt cups may be added for the morning sessions in addition to the fruit cups, bagels and muffins that were a big success. Suggestions for serving the cakes during the lunch break were made to allow more players access: Perhaps each will be placed on

different sides of the playing area; Perhaps they could be served 1-2 rounds later; it was pointed out that the table array will be different and this may improve the situation.

A sign may be needed asking players to restrict themselves to one bowl of soup or, perhaps, the soup could be served by the catering staff.

CADDIES:

As Marilyn Ballon had not yet arrived. Joan Kushner reported that she had received a note from Nancy Rassbach's daughter who volunteered to train the caddies. The note was forwarded to Marilyn Ballon. It was felt that the caddies needed someone at the site when they arrived and required more supervision during some of the sessions. A suggestion was made that the caddies be given written instructions that they could keep with them and refer to as needed. It was also suggested that if a board member is not able to be present at a specific session of a tournament, then someone else should be assigned the job for that session. All present agreed that this replacement should be the responsibility of the board member in charge. After arriving, Marilyn Ballon reported that 5 caddies have been hired for the next Sectional and that they have been instructed as to their duties. She has sent all the caddies an e-mail as to their duties. The caddies are to assist in folding up tables but not the chairs. It was also noted that the caddies should be instructed to wear the caddy aprons. The caddy aprons in supplies are clean. The head caddy, Fatima, may have a transportation problem to and from the next Sectional. Margaret Devere volunteered to bring her to the tournament. Arrangements will be made to return her to her home as well. Fatima will need to contact Margaret Devere to make these arrangements.

PARTNERSHIPS:

John Gallagher was not able to be present. No report was given

Supplies:

Bill Beard reported that there were no problems with supplies. He was very appreciative of all the assistance he has been given in the past after the Sunday Swiss. Flo and Cal Newlin, in particular, were very helpful in the past. All board members present at future tournaments will be happy to assist as well.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Pat Henke was not able to be present. Joan Kushner reported that photography coverage was good but was not complete at the last Sectional. Margaret Devere has only received some of the pictures, therefore, only those received were posted on the web-site. Sheryl Siegel has volunteered to assist with photography and will be contacted to confirm if she is willing to commit to being the photographer in the future.

WEB-SITE:

Joan Kushner commended Margaret Devere on the excellence of the site. Margaret Devere reported that she wanted to post bridge milestones on the web-site but that she only wished to do this

if all members were included who had achieved a higher ranking. The most recent Bulletin was recommended as the source of the latest recording of bridge milestones.

A discussion was held regarding the problem of the 10:30 curfew at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Margaret Devere reported that an extra fee of \$100.00 apparently is expected to be paid to the facility if it was not completely empty by 10:30pm. The personnel at the Fairgrounds were requesting that this fee be paid. Margaret Devere was consulted but did not authorized payment at that time as she was not sure about the Unit's agreement with the Fairgrounds. It was agreed that members should be gently encouraged to vacate the facility if possible but that the fee would be paid in the future in the event that people still remained.

ON-GOING BUSINESS

SURVEY:

The survey results were e-mailed to all board members. The results of the survey were heavily in favor of the Saturday session starting at 2:00pm and the Sunday Swiss being comprised of 7 rounds of 8 boards:

Starting time of 2:00 pm =	102	Sunday Swiss 7/7 =	31
2:30pm =	51	7/8 =	97
3:00pm =	2	8/7 =	20

Bill Michael will be informed of these results. A motion was made and passed that both be implemented at the next Sectional tournament If possible.

Many players requested that their e-mail address be included in the directory. These will be not be published in the upcoming directory but will be possibly included in the future publications of the directory.

General comments included interesting suggestions for the Thursday and Friday night games at the Sectionals. Possible alternatives would be to have a BAM, a Mixed Pairs, or a Pro-Am game, or a BAM/Swiss that allows scoring on a win/tie/loss scale. Margaret Devere will contact Bill Beard to discuss all of the options available and Bill Beard will discuss the possibilities with Bill Michael regarding costs and any difficulties that might be expected. The results of this discussion will be sent by e-mail to all board members for input. After everyone has had an opportunity to share their thoughts, a decision can be made regarding any changes or additions to the Sectional. Changes will then be posted on the web-site.

A discussion was held regarding the provision of a First Aid Kit and a defibrillator at tournaments. Forest Clark felt that minimum attention should be given to administering medical aid and that we are better served if professional help is given, A standard, up-to-date First Aid kit will be available for minor problems but if a medical emergency arises, 911 will be called and an announcement asking for a physician in the room to assist will be made. All board members should be aware of where the first Aid Kit is stored and the acceptable above-stated procedures.

DIRECTORY:

Margaret Devere explained that manual methods are being applied to update and change the directory this year. These methods are very tedious and don't work well over a long term basis. She suggested that two items were required to improve the system:

- 1) A data base publishing system is needed. The basic unit data base can be obtained from the ACBL and then someone proficient in the use of computers, such as herself, could maintain the site and refresh it. The motion to follow through on this was made and passed.
- 2) A specific person is needed to put data into a file that can then be published. This task may require the services of a consultant. Another proposal along these lines was that another person on the board who is computer savvy could assist in adding and extracting data. Someone would be needed to build the system. Flo Newlin suggested that Roger Pennell be contacted. Margaret Devere suggested that Rob Vetter was a viable candidate for the job. Margaret Devere stated that the Data Base would "live" on someone's computer and then be passed on to another person when that person was no longer on the board. Another possibility is that a private person/company could be paid to set up a Web Browser. A motion was made and passed to have Margaret Devere look into these possibilities regarding cost and viability and to report the results to the board.

SECTIONAL, IN GENERAL:

All members felt that the Sectional was a very successful event.

RESPONDING TO RESULTS OF THE SURVEY:

The results of the survey were discussed under On-going business, the survey.

REGIONAL FLYERS:

Joan Kushner announced that the flyers were corrected and taken to the Las Vegas tournament. A discussion was held about the GNT's. Bill Beard noted that hosting the GNT's tends to improve the overall table count at the tournament and perhaps the Unit should revise its decision about this and decide to host them more frequently. The results of hosting them at the upcoming Regional will be reviewed, shared with the Board and then informed decisions can be made at that time.

I/N UP-TO DATE (with House of Cards):

Pat Henke was not able to attend the meeting today;

She asked that the following information, questions be relayed to the Board:

- 1) Pat Henke has contacted all bridge club owner and all have agreed to donate 1-3 free plays for the I/N tournament. She will follow-up with the club owners.

- 2) Alice Kinningham will direct the tournament and would like to do this by herself. She will require one caddy on each day. Pat Henke will be responsible for setting up the caddy for each day. Alice Kinningham also wants to use her own computer if possible. Alice will check to see that her computer is compatible with the Bridge mates.
- 3) The cost of renting the House of Cards is \$400.00. The cost of using the Bridge Mates is \$2.00 each. 30 Bridge Mates will be required for 30 tables. 120 chairs will be required for the tables.
- 4) Pat Henke will buy snacks, coffee and filters and needs to know how much is allowed for all these items in the budget. Lori and Bill Beard will check the records of the last tournament and let Pat Henke know the amount allowed to be spent.
- 5) There is no lunch provided on Saturday. Everyone goes out for lunch.
- 6) Confirmation is needed that the Saturday boards will be duplicated by Bill Michael as per a previous agreement with the Board. Pat Henke wishes to know who is responsible for taking care of these arrangements with Bill Michael and how will the boards be delivered to the playing site.
- 7) Last year the Sunday meal was catered by the Golden Corral, Pat Henke would like to know if the Board was satisfied with the results and if they should be asked to cater the event this year?

Bill Beard will check with Jim Calhoun and will inform Pat Henke of the budget allocations. It was generally agreed that the Golden Corral did a very good job of catering the event last year. Bill Beard was nominated to assist Pat Henke but declined the nomination.

A discussion was held about a request by the House of Cards to either do everything for the tournament or just provide the space for the event. Forest Clark expressed that the Board had a fiduciary duty to do what was best for the Unit as a whole and that would entail not spending extra funds to have the House of Cards perform duties that can be carried out by the Board itself. Extra space may be required for the tournament. Jeanne Achziger suggested that Marvel Heinsohn be asked about the cost of possibly renting his area for the tournament as well. Flo Newlin pointed out that the cost of renting the House of Cards was very fair as the previous facility was more expensive. Discussion was held as to whether the Unit would be allowed to use all available facilities at the House of Cards, such as coffee pots, utensils and it was concluded that "rental" implied use of the whole facility.

A motion was made that the Board only rent the space from the House of Cards and that all other needs be provided by members of the Board itself. The motion was passed with one dissention.

NEW BUSINESS

Website-site Development:

Margaret will work of the web-site after the directory is completed. Areas for consideration have been already discussed in this meeting.

April I/N Ad for March Forum:

Margaret now has most of the information she needs and will produce the ad.

Regional Ad for March Forum:

The ad has been corrected, distributed and re-uploaded and was submitted to the Forum.

March Sectional Flyer:

The flyer is an item that needs to be available for the March Sectional. Margaret now has everything she needs excepting the name of the Partnership chair. John Gallagher will be gone in July. Joan Kushner will appoint someone at the appropriated time and then Margaret will produce the flyer.

2015 NABC National Tournament:

Flo Newlin announced that Roy Weinstein and Bonnie Bagley are in charge of the NABC. Many volunteers will be needed to assist with the preparations and a considerable amount of funds will be needed as well.

DISTRICT 17 ANNOUNCEMENTS/BUSINESS

Flo Newlin announced that the CEO of the ACBL, Robert Harman, is attending our Regional. D17 and Unit 361 will be hosting a reception on Friday, May 23 t 5pm. Jerry Ranney and Flo Newlin will be responsible for planning the reception and the D17 Board meeting which will be held in Denver.

Other Announcements:

- 1) D17 has a \$3.00.00 grant program annually. Grants are given to units in our district who do not have Regionals.
- 2) D17 has voted to accept a policy on banning electronic smoking devices for all D17 Regionals.
- 3) D17 has 6 Regionals per year and may be allowed to have one more in the future. Taos and Vail are possible sites.
- 4) The District Board is recommending that all units have an I/N representative who has less than 700 masterpoints be available to assist the I/N Chairman.
- 5) Flo Newlin addressed the possibility of duplicating boards for the Sunday Swiss teams. She referred to an article in the December Bulletin on Pages 38 and 39. This article is titled "The Philly Dupli-Swiss" and refers to a very fair Swiss team event that features duplicated boards and hand records for postmortem discussion and teaching. Another way to have duplicated boards is to duplicate them for the top 8 teams for the final 3- 4 rounds. All present felt that these were

interesting suggestions and that Bill Michael should be consulted regarding the possibilities. This item will be addressed at future board meetings as well.

- 6) Every year the ACBL Charity Foundation awards various districts \$30,000.00 to be given to charity/charities of their choice. D17 is receiving this award in 2015, which has been given in amounts of \$5,000.00 to 6 charities in the past. The charity must qualify by being 501c3 certified. Denver has never submitted nominees so Board members are encouraged to be thinking of possible candidates. The deadline for submission to D17 is June 1, 2014. More information is to follow.

- 7) The D17 representatives from Unit 361 can nominate two members for the D17 Goodwill committee annually. In 2013, the members accepted to the committee were Jerry Ranney and Penny Coffman. The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2014.

- 8) D17 Regional entry fees will be increased to \$12.00 a session beginning January 2015. This concluded the D17 report.

- 9) Flo Newlin wanted the board to be aware that The ACBL has adopted a Youth Protection and Abuse Prevention Policy and has a copy available for perusal.

Bill Beard confirmed that the charity that will benefit from the regional Charity game will again be the "Food bank of the Rockies". This will be posted in the Unit 361 directory.

Bonnie Smith informed the Board that Castle Rock Bridge club #262675 was approved to host an ACBL-wide instant Matchpoint Game on 10/16/2014. All Board members had previously received an e-mail from Joan Kushner regarding this matter and all had approved this request.

The next Board meeting will be at the House of Cards on Monday, March 3 at 5:00pm.

No further business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Bonnie Smith

