

Subject: Minutes of Unit 362/ACBL Board Meeting  
Date: Monday, November 9, 2015  
Time: 4:30pm  
Location: House of Cards Bridge Club  
In Attendance: Board Members: Joan Kushner, Jeanne Achziger, Marilyn Ballon,  
Jim Calhoun, Phil Debus, Margaret Devere, Shirley Heinsohn,  
Pat Henke, Al Kane, Bonnie Smith  
D17 Representatives: Flo Newlin, Jerry Ranney  
Legal Council: Forest Clark  
Invited Guests Running for D17 Board of Representative Position:  
Don Heitler, Edward Yosses

The meeting was called to order by President, Joan Kushner.

#### APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes and they were approved unanimously.

#### APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT, OCTOBER. 2015

Phil Debus had sent all Board members an e-mail copy of the fall I/N Tournament Budget Overview. The I/N tournament recorded a loss of \$670.19. Discussion of the I/N tournament will be covered in a following section. The financial report was approved unanimously.

#### NOVEMBER SECTIONAL Up-date

**Hospitality:** Jeanne Achziger reported that all plans are completed for hospitality. Jerry Ranney will be bringing ice and soda pop on Thursday to the Jeffco site. Al Kane will pick up supplies for hospitality tomorrow from Cowboy Storage and will bring the supplies to the Jeffco site on Thursday afternoon, November 12 at 3:00 pm.

**Supplies:** As stated above, Al Kane will bring all bridge supplies to the Jeffco site on Thursday afternoon. He will require assistance to set up the tables and supplies. Several Board members will be on hand to assist with this. He will also require assistance after the team game on Sunday and all attending Board members will assist then as well. Also Flo and Cal Newlin and Jerry Ranney will be there and will lend

assistance as well. Jerry Ranney will hang the posters at the Sectional after they are retrieved from the House of Cards Owners.

**Friday Night Non-life master/life master event:** Bonnie Smith reported that 36 pairs have registered, paid their entry fee and have life master partners. This is 18 tables of players. Some of the partnerships are from the mentor/mentee program. The Mentors may choose to use this event as one of their scheduled plays within the program and, if so, will play for free or they may choose to simply pay the \$5.00 entry fee for Life Masters and save the Mentor/Mentee play for a future club game. The event is an Open event as so the anticipated table count may be in the twenties.

As a courtesy, the committee will write the names of the pairs on their entry fees and if they are in the Mentor/Mentee program, the entry fee will be "starred" so as to remind the Directors about the choice of entry payment. The pairs can pick up their entries from the Directors and the Life master can pay the \$5.00 fee. Entry to the event for any pair not coupled as a non-life master/life master will be the usual fee for each.

The Board was gratified as to the response and if the event is an enjoyable one, it may be repeated at a Sectional in the future.

### **I/N TOURNAMENT DEBRIEF**

Pat reported that the I/N tournament was an enjoyable event. Discussion was held regarding the cost of providing lunch on Sunday. The cost for the lunch provided was \$768.00. This purports to a fee of \$22/person which was felt to be too high. Upon later analysis, the per-person cost was more like \$5. Margaret Devere suggested that other options might be considered such as ordering pizzas, or sandwiches, or other foods on the day of the tournament and having them delivered at a specific time. This might be a viable solution as the number of players participating would be appropriate for this method of hospitality.

Pat Henke had contacted several vendors but the only response she had was from Piccolo's. Other vendors such as The Golden Corral do not deliver.

Discussion was also held regarding the entry fees and the Board voted to increase the fees to \$10.00 at the next tournament. The vote was passed, but not unanimously. There was one vote against the increase. The Board generally agreed that the \$10.00 fee should be adequate for budgeting for food, site and director costs.

The tournament resulted in a loss of \$670.19. The table count was down but the cost of hospitality was the same as it was with a higher table count. With the increase in entry fees, hospitality could be improved at future I/N tournaments. Phil Debus requested a budget figure for hospitality costs/ person. An amount of \$5.00/ person will be placed in the future budget regarding this tournament.

Pat Henke reported that Burke Snowden did an excellent job as Director of the tournament.

## FRONT RANGE CHALLENGE DEBRIEF

Al Kane reported that the event went well. Phil Debus will provide Al Kane with budget/cost information regarding past Front Range Challenge events hosted by Unit 361. There was no cost to Unit 361 as Colorado Springs hosted the event this year. Al reported that Colorado Springs would like our Unit to host the next Challenge but to hold it in Colorado Springs.

Joan Kushner said that she had received some objections to the format at the event and that some participants did not enjoy the movement of the tournament. The Chairs of Colorado Springs and Denver will discuss the event before next year's Challenge. The facility in Colorado Springs is not large enough and this problem caused considerable difficulty for players. Al Kane suggested that one solution would be to decrease the number of participants in the event. Margaret Devere reiterated her thoughts about making the event Unit 361 versus the Front Range. Areas such as Boulder, Loveland, Fort Collins could be included, This inclusion might balance the numbers between the Units and make the event more interesting and equitable. All these suggestions will be discussed by the Colorado Springs and Unit 361 Chairs before the event is planned next year and decisions will be made at that time after their collaboration.

## HOLIDAY PARTY UP-DATE

Marilyn Ballon reported that she had contacted several caterers and most of them were too pricey. She has contracted with Maggiano's who will provide the dinner at a cost of \$18.75/person. The meeting/party will be held on Friday, December 11, 2015 at 6:00pm at 2500 South Cherry Creek Drive.

Joan Kushner announced that there is adequate parking on the street and there is also a visitor's garage. Honored guests will be D17 Representatives Flo Newlin and Jerry Ranney, Legal Council, Forest Clark, the Recorder, Penny Coffman, Jared Johnson, the Denver Post bridge columnist and all new Board members.

Jerry Ranney will bring surplus soda pop (left over from our tournament). Forest Clark offered to bring some wine and Flo Newlin will bring some coffee. Joan Kushner will check the supplies in the party room and will send out an e-mail with the information. Marilyn Ballon will be responsible for ensuring that there are adequate cups, plates, utensils, necessary tools for the party and a vacuum cleaner for post party clean-up. Plastic cups, etc may be used as needed. A vacuum cleaner will need to be brought to the party. The cost of rental of the room is \$50.00. Marilyn will also be responsible for inviting all honored guests to the party. She requested a credit card for pre-payment to Maggiano's which Joan Kushner supplied. If she requires assistance she may call upon any of the Board members.

## NOMINEES FOR D17 BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

Joan Kushner announced that there are four candidates running for the position for D17 Representative. This is the seat that will be vacated by the resignation of Flo Newlin. There is one year remaining on Flo's term. Jerry Ranney announced that the D17 board of Representatives may decide to make the new

term last for three years rather than two but this is an item that will be addressed in the future. He also stated that the D17 Board may be reduced in size as well.

The candidates are Jim Calhoun, Don Heitler, Jennifer O'Neill, and Edward Yosses. Jim Calhoun, Don Heitler and Edward Yosses were present and each person gave the Board some information about their backgrounds and their goals for the position. Phil Debus spoke for Jennifer O'Neill who was not able to be present. The position will be voted on at the next Board meeting and tabulated by Flo Newlin. The person will be elected by majority and the D17 bylaws will apply if there is not a majority or there is a tie. Flo Newlin will be responsible for guiding the proper execution of the voting procedure. A Board member may vote by proxy if unable to attend the meeting. The proxy may be given voting directions on how enter the Board member's vote in case of a lack of majority and a second vote is taken. Joan Kushner thanked all the candidates for attending and sharing their thoughts with the Board.

### **PUBLICITY- JANUARY AS 7 FLYER DISTRIBUTION**

Margaret Devere reported that all the flyers for the January Sectional were ready, printed and will be sent to the bridge clubs. The ad is in the Forum for publication and is on our web-site. Jerry Ranney will take the flyers and/or posters for the 2016 Regional to the Albuquerque tournament in January for distribution.

The new Thursday night Sectional event, "the Mixed Pairs", was also announced on the web-site. Jim Calhoun stated that the House of Cards owners had taken the posters down that were up during the I/N tournament and that they might possibly still have them. When the posters are retrieved they will be brought to the November Sectional and put up. Margaret Devere will check with the HOC owners and if the posters are found she will give them to Jerry Ranney who will bring them and post as previously stated.

### **DIRECTORY 2016 UP-DATE**

Margaret discussed the following: The ACBL privacy laws require that all new members give written permission to have their names, addresses, and phone numbers published in the Directory. Any member that was already in the Directory does not have to give permission and is covered under the "grandfather clause". Concern was voiced over what to do about members who have are new but have not responded regarding the Privacy laws. The person or committee responsible for updating and publishing the directory may have to identify all members who did not respond and possibly contact them with a deadline for response. The ACBL generates a roster of all members and that is what will be used to update the Directory. The request for the written permission slip is published on our web-site and a reminder will be in place there as well. Members are encouraged to update their information with the ACBL and with the Unit Board before the next Directory is published. The Board is very happy to comply with each person's wishes but it is the responsibility of each member to relay that information. Jerry Ranney inquired about members who live in two different places during the year. Margaret explained that the address listed on the ACBL roster is what will be put into the Directory unless the member specifically requests a different address and informs the Unit. Notification regarding the changing/updating of personal Directory information will be put on the web-site.

## MENTOR PROGRAM UP-DATE

Shirley Heinsohn handed out copies of the flyers for the new Mentor Project. The project will be in force from January 2016 – June 2016. Any mentor or mentee interested in taking part in the program should inform Shirley or Carolyn Newcomb. The cost of this project is \$2100 for six months without a party and \$2300 with a party. If successful, the project could be repeated in the second six months of 2016. A motion was made and passed to support this project for a six month period. The board will review the project at that time and decide whether to continue for the last six month of the year. The project to date is a big success and the feedback to several Board members has been very good.

## LEARN BRIDGE IN A DAY

Jim Calhoun reported that LBIAD is a program sponsored by the ACBL that gives people a refresher course in basic bridge. It is an excellent tool to make people aware of bridge and to stimulate further interest in learning and playing the game. Jim suggested that the program, when first presented, could comfortably allow for 8-10 tables of players with a general moderator and a host at each table. The ACBL will give \$500 toward the cost of providing this program to the group sponsoring the event. Jim Calhoun would be the moderator. The hosts are instructed in their duties by Jim, who will be a certified teacher. Jim requested that the Board construct a budget for this event.

Jim suggested using the Jeffco site on Thursday at two of our Unit's Sectional tournaments since most of the necessary supplies would be already at the tournament such as cards, boards, bidding boxes, tables and chairs. The Unit would have to purchase or rent audio/visual equipment only. Some considerations of the Board were that there might be too much noise from the moderating of the program and it might interfere with the bridge event already scheduled for that evening. Jim suggested that there were room dividers that could be placed to separate the events and prevent the noise problem. Other concerns were that there might not be enough supplies for 2 events. A suggestion was made to possibly have the event at Jeffco but in the afternoon on those Thursdays. Jim Calhoun was concerned that this would not allow people who worked or attended school to take part. Questions raised by the Board addressed the method of how to attract people to participate in this event. Jim Calhoun suggested that advertising in our flyers, the Unit web-site and newspapers would be some of the ways to advertise the event. Television costs would likely be prohibitive.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board consensus was that they were definitely interested in providing this program but that they would like Jim Calhoun to present a written proposal covering all costs and requirements for this event. It would also be helpful if anticipated problems could be addressed with viable solutions. Once a proposal is received, the Board will review the proposal and make a decision regarding the funding and production of this event.

The time at the House of Cards was up, so the meeting was concluded.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, December 11 at 6:00pm at 2500 South Cherry Creek Drive. A meeting will be held first followed by the holiday party.

Respectfully submitted

Bonnie Smith

See below for the Action List.

### ACTION LIST

1. Al Kane will pick up supplies at Cowboy Storage and deliver them to Jeffco on Thursday, November 12, 2016 at 3:00 pm.
2. Jerry Ranney will bring soda pop and ice to the Jeffco site on Thursday, November 12, 2016. He will bring the posters advertising the new "Mixed Pairs Event" to be held at our January Sectional.
3. Bonnie Smith will bring all registration fees and list of participants for the Friday night Sectional Tournament event to the Jeffco site on Thursday, November 12, 2016. She will arrive at least a no later than 6:00pm.
4. Margaret Devere will bring ballots and a ballot box in preparation for voting if candidates are added to the list of nominees on Thursday, November 12, 2016. She will arrive no later than 6:30pm. She will arrange for a caddy to monitor the ballot box and for players to register their vote with their ACBL number.
5. Joan Kushner will assist in filling out the registration forms with the names of each pair on the form.
6. Bonnie Smith will review the forms and designate the mentor/mentees playing as a pair in the events so as to allow for the option of using the event as one of their mentor/mentee games. (November 12/13, 2016)
7. The Committee for the Front Range Challenge will confer with the Colorado Springs FRC Chair and discuss all recommendations for improving the event. (2016)
8. Committee for the Directory will review list of new players and contact those players who have not sent in their Privacy Consent Form. (January, 2016)
9. Jim Calhoun will prepare a written proposal regarding the LBIAD program and present it to the Board. (2016 as early as able to allow for budgeting and preparation for the event.)
10. Marilyn Ballon will complete all preparations for the holiday party and invite all honored guests.