

June Minutes of Board Meeting Unit 361

Date: June 4, 2016

Location: Denver House of Cards, Englewood, CO

Time: 10:00 am

Attendees: Jim Calhoun, Sherry Clint, Margaret Devere, Rick Gardner, Shirley Heinsohn, Vard Nelson, Nancy Rassbach, Tom West
District 17 Representatives: Jerry Ranney & Ed Yosses

The meeting was called to order by President Margaret Devere.

Minutes: May minutes accepted.

Financials: Rick is awaiting more input on expenses but expects Regional tournament to net the Unit about \$5,000.

Action Items Review: Restroom poster to be accomplished later by Margaret

Sponsorship: Margaret has obtained approval for soliciting sponsors for our tournaments from ACBL. She also spoke with the Colorado Springs Sectional Chair who explained that they have food donations that are not available to our Unit because we have a caterer at our events. They also have a money jar for contributions. Marg put forth the idea of a Contributions Chair for our unit.

Schedule changes have been accomplished by Al.

New Tables: Jerry has purchased ten new tables at Wal Mart for a total of \$313.

Free Plays 0-5: Al will notify directors and Tom will notify the Forum..

Regional Review: Table count was down 10% from last year. The directors suggest that we wait another year to determine if this is a trend. Margaret will send out table count date as soon as she has reviewed it in more detail. Rick suggested that we cancel the 1 pm and 7 pm pairs game since its attendance was so low. Jerry suggested a fast pairs event for the evening session. He also stated that the Albuquerque players' attendance was down. He also said that the Las Vegas Regional was directly after our Regional and might have impacted attendance at

our event. Margaret stated that a review of the proposed schedule for 2017 would be held in a timely manner with all interested parties.

Nancy stated that the directors complained about the caddies' performance. She put forth a motion to hire a Head Caddy (Amira Kaiss) at a fee of \$1,000 and a room to provide supervisory role. She will fill in as caddie where needed and would not receive a per-session fee. Accepted by Board.

Margaret expressed thanks to Jerry and others for their great work during our Regional.

Margaret stated that the GNT attendance was half of last year. Margaret asked Jim to think about this issue for next year. Jerry explained that Las Vegas has passed this event to Denver to manage and will take it back for the next two years. He also provided an explanation of a "no cost" situation for our Unit and a \$600 profit for this two-day event.

Jerry spoke about the lack of coffee at the 7 pm Charity cookie event since the it was delivered at 4 pm in error. He will address this issue with the hotel.

Labels were not provided this year, but Jerry said that Carolyn has made them in past years. Tom described a method for automatic input by each player. Tom and Bonnie will meet later to work out details.

Rick talked about the speaker events held at 6:15 – action deferred to a later date.

Vard stated that the hotel restaurant closed the restaurant at 1 pm, which coincides with the 10 am session break for lunch. Jerry will notify the hotel regarding this issue.

Vard complimented the directors of the Swiss Team event on how efficient they managed the teams.

Shirley presented a letter from a member suggesting that we hold the Regional at the Cherry Creek Marriott to be near restaurants. Margaret will respond by letter.

Jerry stated that last year's hotel cost was \$11,500 and he expected that it will be \$11,000 this year.

Next Meeting: Board voted to hold it on July 2.

- July Prep:** Mentor/Mentee game is July 8. Shirley will begin contacting mentees and continue with mentors.
- Tom read information for the I/N flyers in which the pairs and Swiss teams games have switched days. He also read info on the November flyer: the Annual Meeting will be held July 9 at 2:45 pm.
- Tournament Dates:** Motion passed by Board to move March 2017 date from March 10-12 to March 31-April 2. Margaret will contact Jeffco regarding this change and Al will contact the ACBL.
- Colorado Springs has requested that we move our 2018 I/N tournament to another date since they want to have their Open Sectional at that time. Motion passed to change the I/N tournament to April 28-29, 2018 if District 17 approves. Marg will notify Colorado Springs, and Jerry will notify District 17.
- November 2017 Contract:** A review of the contract with the Summit Events Center, 6th Avenue & Sable Street, by Margaret who suggested we sign this document. Cost for this facility will be \$7,000. Motion passed to execute.
- Transition:** Board congratulated Shirley on her fine work as Partnership Chair after her resignation. Vard Nelson was unanimously accepted as her replacement. Margaret asked Jim to provide a Board badge for Vard. Vard will provide a photograph to Tom for the website.
- Blair Report:** Blair has expressed his interest to Margaret in becoming a director. Al has discussed this issue with Gary Zeiger who stated that they will work Blair as an assistant to replace our remote director which will save the Unit money. Al will offer Blair this position at \$80 per session.
- Pianola Review:** Pianola is an e-mail marketing company in partnership with the ACBL. It provides an interface for e-mailing. It is ready and on line; Margaret has signed up for this service. It is free for 18 months, at which time pricing will be decided. Margaret recommended that we begin utilizing this service and to set up Tom as the liaison; he and Margaret will arrange to add him as a user as well.
- Board e-mail Aliases:** Margaret explained that we can set up aliases on line. Motion passed to have this accomplished by Kitty Cooper. They are as follows: President, Partnership Chair, Sectional Chair, Regional Chair, I/N Chair, Pro/Am Chair, Caddie Chair, GNT Chair, NAP Chair, and Front Range Challenge Chair. Margaret will send Tom the list.
- November Elections:** Jeanne will set up the nominating committee which will consist of a minimum of five people, a majority of whom will not be board members.

Table Talk Fall 2016: Currently electronic newsletter is made known to members via postcard mailing. Motion passed to post on the website and eliminate the postcard method. Margaret asked Jim to provide two posters regarding this issue for the July Sectional.

Outreach: OLLI deferred
Jim explained about 299er participation: Out of 1,372 members, 63.4% are NLM (under 500 masterpoints), 36.6% are Life Master and above, 7% are above 2,000. Jim described that NLM's would like to participate in a "Home Style Swiss" at the Sectional Tournament. Discussion followed regarding other ways to set up play for the I/N members.

Bridge Teaching: Rick spoke about setting up a "curriculum" for Mentors to follow to help the Mentees improve their game. Margaret agreed but stated that there is no way to control this method with the participants.
Nancy suggested we examine the "Learn Bridge in a Day" method. Jim has this material. Motion passed to set this program up before July 17, 2017. Margaret asked Jim to set up a committee for LBIAD.

Next Meeting: Saturday, July 2, 10:00 am, HOC.

Other: Jerry explained that the District Board has increased fees by \$1 per person. \$1 for the Unit and \$3 for the District which has deleted the Western Conference sanction fee: of the \$4 increase, Unit keeps \$3.25 and the District receives \$.25+.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by President.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Clint
Secretary
Unit 361

Action List

- Jeanne:** Set up Nominating Committee
- Jim:** Address GNT attendance issue
Badge for Vard
Posters for Table Talk change
Set up committee for "Learn Bridge in a Day" program
- Margaret:** Restroom poster
Response letter re: Marriott Hotel
Contact Jeffco re: March 2017 Sectional tournament date change
Contact Colorado Springs re: date change for 2018 I/N date change
Execute contract with Summit Events Center for November 2017 Sectional
Add Tom as liaison for Pianola system
Distribute table count after review
- Shirley:** Begin contacting participants for Mentor/Mentee game
- Bonnie:** Meet with Tom to work out details of automating labels at Regional
- Al:** Notify directors of free play for 0-5 members
Notify ACBL of March 2017 tournament date change
Hire Blair to be Asst. Director
- Vard:** Provide photo to Tom
- Jerry:** Contact hotel re: late coffee delivery and restaurant closure
Contact District re: 2018 I/N date change
- Nancy:** Hire Head Caddy for 2017 Regional
- Tom:** Notify Forum re: 0-5 free play
Make edits to flyers
Ask Kitty Cooper to set up aliases on website
Meet with Bonnie to work out details of automating labels at Regional
Work with Shirley to distribute invitations for Mentor/Mentee game