

Subject: Minutes of Unit 361/ACBL Board Meeting
Date: August 1, 2015
Time: 10:30am
Location: House of Cards Bridge Club
In Attendance: Board Members: Joan Kushner, Marilyn Ballon, Jim Calhoun, Phil Debus,
Shirley Heinsohn, Al Kane, Bonnie Smith
D17 Representative: Jerry Ranney
Legal Council: Forest Clark
Absent: Board Members: Jeanne Achziger, Margaret Devere, Pat Henke
D17 Representative: Flo Newlin

The meeting was called to order by President Joan Kushner

APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES

A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes. They were accepted unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Phil Debus had sent all Board members an e-mail including a copy of the Treasurer's Report. The Unit's income was - \$4,814.95 to date. This -\$3,474.95 over budget.

The cost of the last Sectional was increased compared to other Sectionals because a Director from North Dakota was flown in to assist in Bill Michael's absence. The Unit's costs also included the duplication of boards for the Sunday Dupli-Swiss event and our hospitality costs were also high. Jim Calhoun pointed out that the original cost of duplicating the boards was \$6 /set while Bill Michal was repaying a loan granted to him from the Unit; now that the loan has been re-paid, the cost to the Unit is \$12/set. Al Kane reported that the Dupli-Swiss went smoothly and that he had received no complaints. Joan Kushner reported that Jeanne Achziger had no issues with the hospitality at the Sectional.

Bill Michael's contract is up for renewal. He is willing to sign on under the same terms as far as the duplication of boards is concerned. This item will be discussed at a future meeting. Joan Kushner will

include this topic on the agenda for the next Board meeting. Phil Debus remarked that the Board will have to do something in the future to prevent losses of \$5000.00 per tournament. If changes are not made to accommodate increasing costs, the treasury will be out of money in a few years.

Joan Kushner suggested that a topic for future discussion be that of considering other directors and investigating what their charges would be to provide the same services that we now have. Also suggestions were made to consider other caterer's that may also cost less and provide good hospitality. Jerry Ranney said that the Unit would have to check with the Jeffco personnel as that venue has a list of approved caterers. Different venues may also be considered, such as the Denver Zoo, Douglas County Fairgrounds, etc. As well, Jerry Ranney suggested that the Board consider an increase in card fees for each event offered. Joan requested that Phil Debus form a committee to delineate the problems and suggest possible solutions. The findings can then be presented to the Board at a future meeting and decisions can be made after all have the relevant information. Phil Debus will select a committee from the Board or members of the Unit at large.

Phil Debus discussed his request for a change to the calendar year rather than the fiscal year for his Yearly reports. A concern that the necessary information would not be available for "Table Talk" publication; Phil explained that he would be able to provide detailed financial information at any time so that should not be a concern. The Board will make the decision before the end of 2015 at a future meeting.

The \$10,000 plus interest, to be used for funding the upcoming National in Denver, has not been given to the ACBL as yet. This concluded the report.

A motion was made and the Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

TABLE TALK

Joan Kushner requested that the Board consider changing the way information is given to all members of the Unit. She suggested that announcements and pictures of members be published timely rather than once a year in the publication "Table Talk". Joan would prefer to have "Table Talk" include a summary of these accomplishments and then include financial information, pertinent election information, the annual minutes from D17 and other information that reflects summaries of relevant events. She would like to omit the player list that reflects total points of each player. The list can be placed on our web-site and members' pictures, with accomplishments, can be published on the web-site on a timely basis as well. The omission of this information in "Table Talk" would reflect a saving of several thousand dollars to the Unit and all members would still be recognized for their accomplishments in a timely fashion on the web-site instead. All the Board members present agreed with this proposal.

UPCOMING ADS/FLYERS (NATIONAL & I/N)

Margaret Devere was absent but the following information was given to the Board.

Jerry Ranney reported that he had e-mailed Bonnie Bagley and Roy Weinstein and he received an e-mail that assured him that the National flyers would be sent to him this coming week.

Margaret Devere had sent an e-mail reporting that she has the registration form/flyer for the new Friday night game at the November Sectional posted to the website. She will mail them out to the various clubs next week. Carolyn Newcomb has sent it out to all the mentees.

Bonnie Smith relayed that Pat Henke is all set for the I/N and that the flyers are complete.

COMMITTEE UP-DATES

Friday Night Sectional Plans

The flyers and registration forms were posted to the website. Bonnie Smith reported that she has received one registration form. The member submitting the form is part of the Mentee/Mentor program and requested that she play with her Mentor. Bonnie Smith contacted both members and they have agreed to play in the Friday night event. Jim Calhoun presented a letter that will be given to bridge teachers for distribution to their students. The letter is a comprehensive description of the event. Pat Henke is going to start her NLM recruitment when she gets back from Grand Junction.

Jim Calhoun requested that the pairs playing in this event be comprised of only a life/master and a non-life master. He felt that players who are both life masters not be allowed to play in this event. Bonnie Smith felt that since there is only one Open event on Friday night, all players should be allowed to play. A 299's game is available to those who do not wish to play against players with more points. The event is already a very small event and limiting the event in such a way might make the event too small. As well, the flyers/ registration form have already been printed and the Committee had decided that the event would include all members who would like to play. The scheduling of this event is an experiment and after the next Sectional, the Committee can review the results and the Board can change the event as needed.

UPCOMING DISTRICT-WIDE ELECTION

The election for The D17 Board of Governors will begin on August 15 and will end October 3, 2015. Voting will mainly be done electronically but all eligible voting members may vote via mail if they wish.

Jim Calhoun reported that Pat Henke's name was not on the list of voting members. Bonnie Smith will contact Margaret Devere regarding this omission. Jim Calhoun also stated that each voting member represents approximately 130 Unit members so that person's vote is very important.

DISTRICT 17 BUSINESS

There was no specific report from D17. Jerry Ranney and Joan Kushner will meet with the Renaissance Hotel personnel regarding the contract for the next Regional. Joan Kushner has all the contract information.

VOLUNTEERS

Joan Kushner announced that volunteers are needed for the upcoming National Tournament. They are needed to work at the Registration desk, with I/N and a variety of other areas. If a volunteer works at 2 sessions, they will receive ACBL scrip. Shirley Heinsohn had e-mailed Joan Kushner with a list of volunteers.

There was no further discussion at this time. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 5, 2015 at 10:30 am at the House of Cards bridge club. Joan may change the starting time to 10:am if the agenda indicates that more time is needed. She will e-mail all Board members, D17 Representatives and our Legal Council with the time change.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectively Submitted

Bonnie Smith