



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Annual Meeting

April 7, 2013

Westchase Marriott

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:45pm by president, Paul Cuneo. Directors present were: Beverley Cheatham, Paul Cuneo, Joyce Gore, Jolie Hess, Kathy Hughes, Errol LeCesne, Tom Martinsen, and Nancy Strohmer. Also present was Jim Woodward.

Approval of minutes

Motion: That the April 15, 2012 minutes be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Woodward presented the Treasurer's Report which included the final December 31, 2012 financials. The total gross income was \$83,410.18 and the total expenses were \$92,680.85 resulting in a net loss of \$11,770.67. Total Current Assets were reported at \$57,235.19.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Membership

Membership as of 1/1/12 was 2,543 and membership as of 1/1/13 was 2,530.

Business Meeting

Summary of the Regional

There were 3,259 1/2 tables at the Regional and a profit of \$36,000 was realized.

Proposed by-law changes

It was proposed that the Board of ACBL Unit 174 present two proposed amendments to the Unit's by-laws at the annual meeting on April 7, 2013. The annual meeting will be held between sessions at the Election Sectional at the Marriott Westchase Hotel.



The first amendment will amend Article VI, Section 3, to change the minimum number of candidates for the Board that the nominating committee must generate. Currently it is 6.

Current wording is:

Said Nominating Committee shall meet prior to the mailing of notices of the annual meeting, and shall prepare a slate of Nominees at least twice the number of vacancies to be filled.

The proposed wording is as follows:

Said Nominating Committee shall meet prior to the mailing of notices of the annual meeting, and shall prepare a slate of Nominees with between four and six candidates. With no incumbent elected directors running for re-election, the minimum would be 6 candidates. The minimum would be reduced by 1 for each incumbent elected director seeking re-election.

Recent nominating committees have voiced concern about recruiting candidates to stand for election. Since incumbent elected directors have been re-elected for many years, the nominating committees feel they are recruiting too many candidates that have only a small chance of being elected. The proposed change recognizes that incumbents have a very high probability of re-election while still providing for contested elections.

Motion: That the by-laws be amended as follows: Said Nominating Committee shall meet prior to the mailing of notices of the annual meeting, and shall prepare a slate of Nominees with between four and six candidates. With no incumbent elected directors running for re-election, the minimum would be 6 candidates. The minimum would be reduced by 1 for each incumbent elected director seeking re-election.

The motion failed.

The second change is to Article VI Section 9 d concerning annual audit of the Unit's finances. The change would allow either an audit or a financial review with timing at the discretion of the Board.

Current wording is:

To provide for an annual audit of all receipts and disbursement of the Unit by a Certified Public Accountant

The proposed wording is:

To provide for an audit by a Certified Public Accountant or a review of Unit financial procedures, books and records by a competent independent reviewer. The frequency of the audit or review will be determined by the Board of Directors.

The Unit has had the Financial Verifier position for many years. This individual receives the Unit's bank statements and verifies that the financial statements presented to the Unit Board accurately reflect all of the transactions. With this safeguard in place, recent audits have found nothing material.

A "review" is less expensive than an audit and the Unit Board recommends changing the by-laws to allow for a review, while retaining the option for a full audit. In addition, with the Financial Verifier position on place and functioning, the Board believes that an annual frequency of audit or review is excessive. Since circumstances may change in the future, the proposed wording would allow the Unit Board to make the frequency decision.



Motion: That the by-laws be amended as follows: To provide for an audit by a Certified Public Accountant or a review of Unit financial procedures, books and records by a competent independent reviewer. The frequency of the audit or review will be determined by the Board of Directors. Included in the motion was to provide an audit, not a review, in years when Houston hosts the NABC.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Other new business

Recognition of Achievements

- a. Shawn Quinn won the Wager Women's KO at the Summer NABC in Toronto
- b. Daniel Jackson won Flight B of the NAP in St. Louis
- c. Eddie Wold passed 60,000 masterpoints
- d. John Zilic passed 25,000 masterpoints
- e. Georgiana Gates became Grand Life Master
- f. Carolyn Peters became Platinum Life Master in Oct 2011
- g. Tom Breed and Sally Wheeler became Emerald Life Masters
- h. Lew Levy won the District's Jacoby Award

Paul thanked the Board of Directors for all their hard work during the past year. He noted that when you are elected to the board you agree to accept a lot of responsibility and hard work. In addition to hosting a Regional, Unit 174 has 4 sectionals which are sometimes as large as regionals in some units. In addition to that we have other events that we sponsor such as the STAC's, the GNT, the NAP, 24 Unit championship games a year, several NLM tournaments, bridge in schools and many, many other areas.

Paul recognized Jolie Hess and thanked her for her lengthy service and hard work on the Board.

Presentation of Awards

Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards: Nancy read off the names and Paul presented the awards.

There was discussion regarding adding a day to the current Sectionals—from 3 days to 4 days. One of the downsides is that the 4th day would take business away from the local Clubs.

Motion: That Unit 174 Sectionals change to 4 days instead of the current 3 days.

The motion was tabled.

Election Results

In alphabetical order, Paul announced the winners: Beverley Cheatham, Chuck Ensor, and Bill O Reilly.

Adjournment

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was seconded and approved at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Strohmer, Secretary

