



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

April 7, 2014

Bridge Studio of Houston

Call to order

Beverley Cheatham

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Directors present were: Bob Armstrong, Rhonda Bryant, Beverley Cheatham, Kathy Hughes, Daniel Jackson, Tom Martinsen, Bill Riley and Nancy Strohmer. Jim Woodward, treasurer, and Gary Hercules, incoming treasurer, were present. Chuck Ensor was absent.

Introduction of Board Members

Beverley Cheatham

Beverley asked that the new and returning board members and the other attendees introduce themselves. Each person introduced themselves and gave a short bio. The returning board members gave a description of their current board duties.

Election of Officers

Beverley Cheatham

Beverley opened the floor for nominations for Unit officers.

Nancy Strohmer nominated Beverley Cheatham for President. The nominations were closed for lack of another nomination.

Motion: That Beverley Cheatham be elected President of Unit 174.

Beverley Cheatham was approved by all board members with Beverley abstaining.

Kathy Hughes nominated Nancy Strohmer for Vice President. Tom Martinsen moved that the nominations be closed.

Motion: That Nancy Strohmer be elected Vice President of Unit 174.

Nancy Strohmer was approved by all board members with Nancy abstaining.

Nancy Strohmer nominated Bob Armstrong for Secretary after Bob expressed interest in the position.

Motion: That Bob Armstrong be elected Secretary of Unit 174.

Bob Armstrong was approved by all board members with Bob abstaining.



Approval of minutes

Bill Riley

Bill provided copies of the March minutes to the new Board Members. Email copies had been sent to the returning Board members and the Board members who recently completed their 3 year term.

Motion: That the March Minutes be approved.

The above motion was made by Nancy Strohmer. The motion was approved by all present.

Bill sent a copy of the minutes for the annual meeting held yesterday at the Election Sectional by Email to returning board members and distributed copies to the Board. Beverley asked the Board to approve the annual meeting minutes so that they can be posted on the Unit website until they are approved at the next Annual Meeting in 2015.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Woodward

Jim Woodward had sent the report via Email prior to meeting. A hard copy was distributed at the meeting. Jim had re-categorized some of the items from the regional – moving Guillermo's expenses. He paid the ABA ½ of the profit for ABA/ACBL event – total of \$225.

Motion: That the March Treasurer's report be approved.

The above motion was made by Bill Riley. The motion was approved by all present.

- Motion:**
- 1. That Nancy Strohmer, current Vice President of Unit 174, and Gary Hercules, new treasurer of Unit 174, be added to the signature signing card for the Unit 174 checking account.**
 - 2. That Chuck Ensor, past President of Unit 174, and Jim Woodward, past treasurer of Unit 174, be removed from the signature signing card for the Unit 174 checking account.**
 - 3. That Beverley Cheatham, current President of Unit 174 (past Vice President of Unit 174), remain on the signature signing card for the Unit 174 checking account.**

The above motion was made by Bill Riley. The motion was approved by all present.

Jim related that he currently has in his possession (boxes in his garage) copies of minutes dating back to 1960. Tom Martinsen will look into scanning.

Jim also reported that he is the registered agent of the State of Texas for Unit 174. Beverley will look into changing that to another person in the Unit. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jim reported that he had gotten a letter from the IRS about changing the Unit's name. Chuck Ensor and Jim replied to IRS and were not clear as to what the IRS was asking. Jim Woodward did point out that the current Bylaws of Unit 174 has a statement in the preamble that the Unit is a subsidiary of ACBL Inc. It is not. This implies a business relationship which does not exist. This should be changed when the Bylaws are revised.



District Report

Paul Cuneo

Beverley reviewed a letter from Paul Cuneo. The next district meeting will be July 5th at the Austin Regional. There were 13 teams for GNT district championship held during our election sectional. Paul will be making some recommendations at the District meeting for changes.

Old Business

April Election Sectional

Beverley Cheatham

Table Count was down

632 tables – down from last year's sectional.

Problems Identified

Women's restrooms were not kept clean
Saturday's lunch was not efficient – very slow service
Bottle water was not kept refilled.

Areas which worked well

Fast results
New banners for the desks
Separate areas for sales of team and pair events
Sunday lunch went well
9 board matches for the team events

LSR 2015

Beverley Cheatham

Beverley announced that the flyers have been sent out. Nancy Strohmmer will be the co-chair of the tournament. Bill Riley will be the partnership chair and not his wife. The Email address needs to be changed to partnershipU174@gmail.com

June Summer Sectional

Nancy Strohmmer

Bob Armstrong volunteered to co-chair the June Sectional.

Nancy reported that everything is on schedule. Nancy discussed the use of door prizes for restaurants. Nancy has started to ask for donations for restaurant. Rhonda Bryant agreed to help ask for restaurants. Any of the restaurants who donate door prizes should be included on a list to be distributed. The Board suggested that we ask for all of the tournaments.

August 4-day Sectional

Beverley Cheatham

Daniel Jackson volunteered to co-chair the August Sectional. Beverley presented the budget. There is an anticipated loss.

Motion: That the Budget for the August Sectional be approved.

The board discussed the budget and the possible increase in the rental cost of the site.

The above motion was made by Bill Riley. The motion was approved by all present.



Beverley discussed the email from DIC Kevin Perkins. There was no contingency for the teams knocked out of the second round of knockouts. The board discussed the addition of a single session Swiss.

Motion: That a single session Swiss event be added to the schedule on Friday and Saturday be approved.

The above motion was made by Bill Riley. The motion was approved by all present.

November South Shore Sectional

Beverley Cheatham

Rhonda Bryant volunteered to co-chair the November Sectional with Chuck Ensor. Chuck was not here. No further discussion.

Humble 2015 Sectional

Beverley Cheatham

Beverley reported the board the options that Paul Cuneo is pursuing for this sectional. One is the Sam Houston Park.

GNT

Tom Martinsen

Tom discussed some confusion about the dates for the GNT by the district. The Board discussed the need to advertise or explain the team event in Constant Contact.

Membership Attraction & Retention

Group

The Whirlwind event will hopefully increase membership.

2014 I/N Sanctions / Unit Championships

Bill Riley

Bill reported that we still do not have the sanction for the August 299er Sectional.

Bill suggested that we should get the I/N tournament dates for 2015 soon. Chuck should submit them as soon as possible. There was discussion that Clear Lake Bridge Club may want to hold an event with the expansion of their playing site.

There are still 3 more Championship games available for the Unit to use.

ABA Joint Event

Nancy Strohmer

The ABA had only had 3 ½ tables but suggested that the site be more central. On the next event there will likely be more attendance from them. Nancy has secured the Tracey Gee community center on February 28th 2015. She will continue to work on this.

Whirlwind Bridge

Beverley Cheatham

Beverley reported that the event will be held Saturday, September 6, 2014. This is an event to learn the basics of bridge in a day. Beverley explained the purpose. The bridge teachers expressed support. Tom asked where the new players were coming.

Flyer Distribution

Nancy Strohmer

Nancy reported that the flyers were being distributed. There was a discussion about the changing the procedures manual as the tournament chairs are scheduled to do this.



New Business

District Charity

Nancy Strohmmer

Nancy reported on the progress. There will be a 3 member committee for the district.

ACBL dues for Rice University Students

Beverley Cheatham

Beverley reviewed the letter from Bob Curl for the Unit supporting the students who are enrolled in the bridge course taught by Eddie Wold at Rice University. There was considerable discussion about supporting this event. Beverley read the Email from Errol LeCesne describing the history of free membership. The student price for those under 26 years of age is only \$15. The board wanted more information about the course before a decision be made. The board wanted to distribute a note to the students about the benefits of ACBL membership – free plays at the tournaments and at the clubs.

New Assignments

Beverley Cheatham

Beverley discussed the assignments. The following assignments were made:

Supplies	Tom Martinsen / Bob Armstrong
GNT / NAP	Tom Martinsen / Bill Riley
STAC	Bill Riley / Daniel Jackson
I/N Coordinator	Kathy Hughes / Rhonda Bryant
Communications / Publicity	Nancy Strohmmer / Bill Riley
Awards	Kathy Hughes / Rhonda Bryant
Board Information Coordinator	Daniel Jackson
Bridge in Schools / Education Liaison	Errol LeCesne
Social Bridge	Beverley Cheatham / Rhonda Bryant
Tournaments/Sanctions	Chuck Ensor
Tournament Flyers	Nancy Strohmmer

There was a discussion about the information coordinator job description.

Executive Session

The board was not in executive session.

Future Meeting dates

The next Unit Board meeting will be held on Monday May 5th, at 9:30 AM at Tracy Gee Community Center.

The planning committee meeting will be held at Tracy Gees May 19th at 9:30 AM.

Adjourn

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was made by Nancy Strohmmer and approved at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Riley, Secretary

