



## Memorandum of Discussion

### ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### Houston Bridge Studio

#### Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Present were Pat Levy, President, Paul Cuneo, Vice-President, John Erickson, Secretary, Joyce Ryan, Karen Nimmons, Robert Reichek, Sue Adamson and Bob Dowlen.

Also present for part of the meeting was Jim Woodward – Treasurer.

#### Minutes of July Board Meeting

The minutes of the July meeting were approved by on-line poll.

#### Treasurer's Report

Jim submitted financial reports dated August 10, 2009. The most significant item concerned the maturing of approximately \$90,000 held in Certificates of Deposit. Jim reinvested 45K in a CD maturing in six months, and the other 45K in a CD maturing in one year.

**Motion: To approve the August financial reports.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

Jim and the Harris County taxing authority agreed on a value of approximately \$5,700 for our assets held in the warehouse, obligating us to about \$150 in taxes.

John will send a copy of the February, June, July and August financial reports to Norm Gautier (the financial verifier) and will send the current reports on a monthly basis.

#### Committee Reports

##### STAC

**Bob**

Our next unit STAC will be held the week of October 5-11. The Director in Charge (DIC) will be ACBL Tournament Director, Patti Johnson. The DIC has advised that all registration for STAC games will be done online. The DIC will handle club invitations, instructions, registration and downloading hand records by email. Invitation and instructions will be emailed in August. Non-playing directors are encouraged, but not required for Unit STAC games of six tables or less. Non-playing directors are required for games of seven tables or more. Five tables or more are



required to compete for the overall Unit STAC awards, but smaller games will still award silver points.

**Motion: To charge clubs participating in STAC games \$1 per person per session.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

## **2009 Pro-Am**

**Paul**

Discussion was held concerning the amount of Unit support for the Pro-Am to be held on October 22.

**Motion: To reimburse clubs \$14 per table - \$10 to help provide a meal and \$4 to allow for an upgraded game.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

## **Member Communications Committee**

**John**

Betty Freedman submitted a report showing that attempts were made to contact 21 members.

## **Membership**

**John**

Unit membership totals 2,468 as of August 1, an increase of 16 from the previous month.

## **I/N, Education & Book Sales**

**Joyce**

A total of 7 books were sold. I ordered and received four cases of books for the fall. I will need to order more when I hear from other teachers. The new novice newsletter went out on the regular newsletter and in a separate mailing to the 299ers. I now have an updated list of 299ers and can send out emails to them regarding upcoming events.

## **NAP/GNT**

**John**

*NAP*

A director has been asked to handle the Unit NAP games in November, and we are waiting his confirmation.

*GNT*

Congratulations to Brett Elliott, Harry Elliott, Byron Elliott, Robert Reichek and Herbert Kalman, who finished second in the National Flight C competition at the Washington D.C. NABC.

## **Tournament Coordination**

**Paul**

2010 Calendar: The first Unit STAC will be held the week of January 11-17. The Sunday starting time for the Sunday games at the Lone Star Regional will be moved to 10:00 a.m., due to the Super Bowl. The April sectional will be moved from the weekend of April 2-4 to April 23-25. The second Unit STAC will be October 4-10. The Pro-Am will be held during the same week in late October as this year. The 24 Unit games we are allowed next year will be geared toward day games, and Saturday games in particular, as these are the games with the most participation.

## **Fund Raising**

**Bob**

The Unit received a check from Randall's in the amount of \$33.55.

## **Publicity**

**Pat**



The Houston Press declined our offer of providing "Bridge Bites" columns, so Bill Baker is seeking other avenues to present these columns.

## Old Business

### June Sectional

Karen/John

With all costs presumably in, we showed a profit of approximately \$850.

### August Sectional

Paul

Becky Zendejas has left the Marriott, so future bookings will need to be carried out with a new contact. 35 rooms have been reserved for the Sectional, over and above the 20 we committed. Sue Doe, the DIC, will supervise table setup on Thursday evening. We need only place bid boxes and trash cans on Friday morning. Paul negotiated a price of 37.50 per gallon of coffee that will be provided free to players. This is significantly less than the price we have been paying. Also, the Marriott will offer a lunch special for \$10 and a dinner special for \$12 on both Friday and Saturday.

### On-line Partnership Desk

There are now 256 registrants, with 13 new registrants in the past month. 76 partnership requests were issued in the past month.

### Unit web site

Bert has updated the on-line directory, Mini-McKenney, Ace of Clubs, and masterpoint lists as of August 7. Club managers can now upload their own results to the web site. Flyer and web pages for the October tournament have been created. An ad was sent to Ira Hessel for the tournament. Bert proposes adding search capability to the web site. For example, people could search for their last names to find all the games in which they played. A "GNT" search would uncover all info on that subject. Bert could arrange for Google site search for \$250 per year.

**Motion: To allocate \$250 per year for Bert to obtain Google site search for the web site.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

## New Business

### October Sectional

Paul/Lauri

Most details are now confirmed. The only major item left is to secure a caterer for the Sunday meal.

### Sectional Tournament Sites

John

The Shriners have assured us that we will be able to use their ballroom for the Election Sectional in April 2010, but they are not yet issuing contracts.

### 2010 Lone Star Regional

Paul

Advertising was discussed for the Regional.

**Motion: To run two ads in the San Diego (Fall NABC) daily bulletins and run an ad in the December Bridge Bulletin.**

The motion was seconded and approved.



## **Social Bridge**

The BCOH may be interested in hosting the next social event in the fall.

## **Adjourn**

**Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.**

The motion was seconded and approved at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted

John Erickson

Secretary

