



Memorandum of Discussion
ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting
August 3, 2015
Westside Bridge Academy

Call to order

Nancy Strohmer

Nancy Strohmer, President of Unit 174, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Directors present were: Bob Armstrong, John Caudill, Beverley Cheatham, Chuck Ensor, Walter Freitag, Daniel Jackson, Daniel Leightman (by phone), Bill Riley and Nancy Strohmer.

Directors absent were: None.

Also present were Paul Cuneo, District 16 President and candidate for District 16 1st Alternate Position, Gary Hercules, Treasurer, and Chris Compton, candidate for District 16 1st Alternate Presentation.

District 16 1st Alternate Presentation

Paul Cuneo

Paul Cuneo asked for the Board Members to vote for him for District 16 1st Alternate Position. He has extensive business, board and leadership experience. He stated that the key issues facing ACBL are membership growth and attracting children and youth.

Approval of minutes

Walter Freitag

Walter Freitag had emailed copies of the July minutes to the Board members.

Motion: That the July Minutes be approved.

The above motion was made by John Caudill and seconded by Beverley Cheatham. The motion was approved by all.

Treasurer's Report

Gary Hercules

The June treasurer's report had been sent by Email from Gary Hercules. The Verifiers Report had also been sent by Mike Hoffman.

Motion: That the July Financial Report be approved.

The above motion was made by Beverley Cheatham and seconded by Walter Freitag. The motion was approved by all.



Bob Armstrong will allocate printing costs by tournament.

District Report

Paul Cuneo

Paul reported the I/N newsletter will be sent out using Robly. There will be subaccounts for each unit. Each unit must designate a person to initially provide the membership information and perform updates as necessary. This newsletter will be aimed for both students and new players.

Old Business

August 2015 Sectional

Beverley/John

Nancy congratulated Beverley and John for a good job on this tournament. Beverley stated that the number of tables for 2014 and 2015 were 881.5 and 857, respectively. The decline was due to 2 less sessions in 2015 and the board-a-match was not as well received as anticipated. Walter stated that the tournament chairs need to work with hosting facility on when the supply bins will be delivered and picked up. Nancy stated that the bookseller was very successful and will be at the LSR tournament.

November 2015 Sectional

Daniel/Bill

The Board reviewed the handout for the Race with the Aces Sectional. Currently, there is no partnership chair. Also, the lecture times on Friday and Saturday will be changed to 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm, respectively. The Unit will be responsible for setting up and taking down the tables. The caddies will help with the tables.

April 2016 Sectional Date

Chuck

Chuck stated that the current dates posted will remain unchanged. The Board will discuss the schedule at the next meeting.

Selected Areas of Emphasis for 2015/Board Assignments

Group

Whirlwind Bridge – Walter stated that the place and date will probably be Tracy Gee Community Center and January 30, 2016. Nancy will request the place on November 1, 2015. The theme of “Learn Bridge in a Day” will be “Succeed in Life.”

Board Members Club Visits – Bill is working on dates for Board Members visits to Bridge Club of Houston, Westside Bridge Academy, and Southwest Duplicate Bridge at JCC.

Handling of Sunday Lunches – Gary requested that at a future Board meeting, the Board determine whether or not to provide attendees with a lunch on Sundays.

Consider Swiss Team Hand Records – Bob will work up what it would cost to provide hand records to those who compete in Swiss team at tournaments.

Google Drive Training – Daniel Jackson provided this training at the last tournament.

Bridge in Schools – Bill stated that his target age group is 10 to 14 years at schools and local YMCAs.

Set Up Group on Yahoo for Confidential Information – Daniel Jackson stated that this has been done.

Directory – Bill stated that he is working on obtaining sponsors for the Directory, which should be ready in January 2016.



Review Annual Membership Meeting Process – Bob will schedule a meeting with Walter and Paul Nimmons to discuss this process and provide recommended changes at the next meeting.

Infra Structure Improvements – Daniel Jackson showed his proposed stanchion that can be made with supplies from local hardware store. He will continue to work on. Bob, Chuck and Walter will go to the supply storeroom and access what additional supplies need to be purchased.

LSR 2016

Nancy/Bob

Nancy discussed the times to start and the number of boards to be played in Swiss. There will be a Director Refresher course and potentially a Director course at this tournament. There will be four hospitality days and a teacher appreciation day.

LSR 2016 Bracketed Swiss

Dan

Dan Leightman will discuss at the next meeting.

New Business

2018 Open Trials

Bob

Even though Dan Morse has stated that the open trial in Houston will require no work at all, the Board is concerned about the amount of work needed to be done by Unit 174 if it opts to be part of this tournament. More research needs to be conducted in order to make a decision.

Nominating Committee

Nancy Strohmmer stated that she has designated Dianna Gittelman as Chair of this Committee and that Dianna Gittelman is ensuring that members from Houston and surrounding areas will be on this committee.

Mentor/Mentee Club Game Disbursement

Group

Motion: That the mentor/mentee club game disbursement be \$4 per table.

The motion was made by Bill Riley, seconded by Walter Freitag and approved by all present

District 16 1st Alternate Presentation

Chris Compton

Chris Compton asked for the Board Members to vote for him for District 16 1st Alternate Position. He stated that the key issues facing ACBL are membership recruitment and retention, technology services imbroglio, and ACBL Board redistricting.

Executive Session

Nancy moved the meeting to Executive Session at 8:38 pm. The Executive Session lasted until 9:18 pm.

Future Board Meetings

The next unit Board meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 9:30 am at Tracy Gee Community Center.

Adjournment

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.



The motion was made by Bill Riley, seconded by John Caudill and approved by all present.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Freitag, Secretary

