

Memorandum of Discussion
ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

December 5, 2016

Westside Bridge Academy

Call to order

Bob

Board members present were Bob Armstrong, Bill Riley, Nancy Strohmer, Dan Leightman, John Caudill, Dianna Gittelman, and Daniel Jackson. Unit 174 Treasurer Gary Hercules was present. Mildred Breed attended the meeting via conference call. Daniel Jackson acted as secretary. Ken Hudson was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

October Minutes

Daniel

Daniel Jackson presented minutes of the October board meeting.

Motion – That the October 2016 minutes be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved by all.

November Minutes

Bob

The minutes from the November meeting were presented. Some typographical errors were noted.

**Motion – That the November 2016 minutes be approved, pending
correction of typographical errors**

The motion was seconded and approved by all.

Treasurer's Report

Gary

Gary Hercules presented the November financial statement.

Motion – That the November 2016 Financial Statement be approved

The motion was seconded and approved by all.

Good Neighbor Plan

Gary

Gary brought samples of a form distributed by Safeway Stores (Randall's). The form indicates an election of a charity. Randall's will donate to the charity indicated on the form whenever purchases are made on a shopper's Randall's card.

Discussion of October 2016 Sectional

Daniel

The board discussed whether or not there should be another sectional in League City. Attendance was much lower at this tournament from the tournament in 2014.

Although the playing site was greatly improved from the 2014 sectional, many players decided at that time to not attend any more tournaments at South Shore Harbor Resort.

The board will continue to try to have tournaments closer to players in the outlying (North and South) areas of the unit.

A new convention center will be opening in 2017 in Sugar Land which will be able to accommodate a sectional tournament. This site will be much closer to most members of the unit. The board will look into pricing for this location. The board will also investigate other locations.

Lone Star Regional 2017

Bill

Bill Riley reported on the Lone Star Regional.

A bookseller has been located.

Two vendors expressed interest in coming to the tournament, a jewelry vendor and a clothing vendor. The vendors give 10% of their sales revenue to the unit, so if space permits the vendors would be a good idea.

Robert Hartmann, CEO of ACBL, will not be attending the tournament. Bill will contact the new President of ACBL to see if he would like to come.

Dianna investigated printing envelopes for our \$2 bill prizes as done at some other tournaments. The cost was 5000 envelopes for \$356.

Motion – Approve expense for 5000 envelopes

The motion was seconded and approved by all.

Bill reported that a number of prizes from previous tournaments were still in storage. He suggested bringing these old prizes to the regional and giving them out as an alternative to the \$2 bills.

Bob checked into the feasibility of providing electric scooter to handicapped members. This would be too expensive and would present a potential source of liability.

Gary said that the payment for this year's registration gifts (insulated cups) will go out.

Nancy commented on the Director refresher course. Thus far no one has signed up, the course may be cancelled.

John suggested naming some of the I/N events for teachers who teach beginners. These events are typically not purchased. The board will compile a list of all these teachers.

April 2017 Sectional **Nancy**

Nothing new to report.

2017 Sectional Chairmen **Bob**

Bob appointed John Caudill, Mildred Breed, and Dianna Gittelman the chairmen of the June, August, and October sectional tournaments in 2017. Co-chairmen for each of these will be newly elected directors.

ABA-ACBL Joint Championship **John**

This event has been set for Saturday, February 4, at 10:00 at Tracy Gee Community Center. Daniel will create a sanction for this event.

Marketing Committee **Nancy**

The board discussed budgetary items for MiniBridge.
The unit has applied for an Educational Foundation grant.

Club Connection **Bill**

Two events are planned, December 16 for the Apple 2 holiday party, and January 9 for Apple.

Election Petition **Bob**

The board will send the petition to be included in the Scorecard, for public notice, as planned.
The board discussed how the voting on the petition will be conducted.

Event Schedule for 2017 **Bill**

The STaC tournament and the Unit Championships need to be sanctioned with ACBL. Daniel will create sanctions for these events.

NAP **John**

The 2016 NAP lost \$1,000 due to poor attendance.
The board discussed whether future NAPs should be held at the Bridge Club of Houston. Action on this will be deferred until after the district decides on whether or not to hold unit NAP qualification games.

Cell Phone Policy **Nancy**

The District wants the Units to enforce the ACBL cell phone policy.

The penalty for a violation in a pair game will be ¼ board, one full board if the phone is answered.

In a KO team game, the penalty will 3 IMPs, 12 IMPs if the phone is answered.

In a Swiss team game, the penalty will be 1 VP, 4 VPs if the phone is answered.

Unit Charity

Dianna

For our 2017 Unit Charity games, Dianna proposed that we designate SEARCH as our sponsored charity.

Motion: SEARCH will be our charity for unit charity games for 2017.

The motion passed.

Motion: Move into executive session.

The board was in executive session for 24 minutes.

Motion: Adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed.

The meeting ended at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel Jackson
Unit 174 Board Member