



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

July 11, 2016

Tracy Gee Community Center

Call to order

Bob

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am. Directors present were: Bob Armstrong, Dianna Gittelman, Daniel Jackson, Nancy Strohmer, Ken Hudson, Bill Riley and Dan Leightman. Directors present by "Call-in" were John Caudill and Mildred Breed. Also present was Gary Hercules.

Approval of minutes

Bob

The May meeting minutes were prepared and emailed to the Board

Motion – That the May 2016 Minutes be approved

The motion was seconded and approved by all.

The June meeting minutes were prepared and emailed to the Board by Nancy Strohmer.

Motion – That the June 2016 Minutes be approved

The motion was seconded and approved all.

Treasurer's Report

Gary

Gary did not have the June and July Treasurers report ready for presentation at this meeting. The reports will be presented in the August meeting. Gary provided the Board his new address and phone number. His email remained unchanged.

District Report

Nancy

Cut and pasted into the meeting minutes is the District Report submitted by Paul Cuneo to the Unit:



D16 Austin Meeting Report

- Financial health remains good
- Discussed MiniBridge efforts
- Laura Delfield is the new TAP instructor
- Units are to charge \$50 for TAP and may use the fee to offset out of pocket expenses such as refreshments, projector rental, supplies etc. Any surplus is to be sent to the District to offset some of the ACBL fee.
- Unit GNT qualifying was reinstated for the next cycle for Flights B&C
- The District wants to move the GNT event to Houston. The plan is to play the times of our Sectional on Saturday and Sunday. Separate Director and plan to utilize the Rosegarden. If too many entrants for the Rosegarden, on Flight will play Saturday in the back of the Pavilion.
- Approved expenditure for the Robly License for another year.
- Amended the District By-laws to have 2 year terms for officers beginning in 2017 although provision was made for current officers to have another one year term in 2017.
- The District will create an additional Board position to focus on Marketing, and will solicit candidates.

Paul Cuneo
July 11, 2016

Following is minutes of the Board's discussion regarding Paul's submission:
Discussion of new TAP charge of \$50.00 and GNT Qualifier move to Houston at the election sectional. Nancy was asked to follow-up with the District regarding Robly access for the Unit President and to ensure seating arrangements for GNT do not impact the Sectional tournament layout.

Old Business

June Sectional

John/Dianna

Participation up 18 tables from last year. Caddy expenses decreased from previous year. Not all expenses have been recorded and expense report has not been finalized. Gary was asked to look into I/N candy expenses and to correctly record them on the expense report.

August Sectional

Dan/Mildred

Hand records for Saturday's Swiss Teams event was discussed by Dan. Dan proposed 8 teams in the top bracket and 8 teams in each bracket. Each team to play the same boards to eliminate slam swing boards not played at all tables. 7 boards a round will be played. Dan asked that the Board review the packet of information provided and give feedback. Lunch will not be provided on Sunday – there will be an hour and a half break to eat lunch. Entry fee for Sunday game is \$10.00 per session. The Marriott is



aware that no lunch will be provided. Dan/Mildred will investigate any giveback to players on Sunday in lieu of lunch – the Marriott Starbucks and/or area restaurant discounts. Nancy to send out email blast prior to tournament to District members reminding them that there will not be a lunch provided on Sunday. Bob is working with the Marriott to ensure room blocks are reserved for Wednesday and Thursday.

Fall Sectional

Daniel/Ken

Daniel reported that the budget and the flier will be prepared and reviewed at the next Board meeting.

2017 LSR

Bob/Bill

Bill reported that Pam Barksdale has agreed to be the Partnership Desk Chair and Lisa Zummo has agreed to be the Hospitality Desk Chair. The Directors course schedule to be worked by Tom Marsh. Mildred began the discussion after feedback from various pro players regarding the schedule and knock-out sessions and other game availability in the case of being knocked out early in a team event. Bob and Daniel to review schedule, get input and provide feedback to the board if the schedule is revised.

April, 2017 Sectional / Annual Meeting

Nancy/Ken

Nancy reported that the proposed schedule will be prepared and presented at next month's meeting.

Selected Areas of Emphasis for 2016/Board Assignments

Bob

Club Connection – Bill Riley reported that 2 clubs remain to be visited and he is working with them to get scheduled. He also shared the Kingwood club is celebrating their 8th anniversary on Wednesday August 3rd and it would be good for the Board to be represented at their celebration.

ABA Bridge – Nancy is working on securing a date for the ABA /ACBL bridge game and will provide information to the board at our next meeting.

MiniBridge Committee Report

Nancy

The MiniBridge event at the June Sectional was a huge success. There were over 80 participants and the event was very well received. The next MiniBridge event will be held on Saturday 8/13. Nancy had fliers made up and provided to clubs.

A motion was made to approve the MiniBridge Marketing Committee request an additional \$1,000.00 in funding to hold MiniBridge events at the Fall Sectional and the Lone Star Regional.

The above motion was made and seconded and approved. The motion was made and if additional funds are needed, Nancy will come back to the Board to request funds.

Petition

Ken

A petition was received from Betty Freedman with 195 signatures. 187 signatures were verified and the remaining will be investigated. Ken, as the Unit Secretary, is checking all of the signatures to confirm that they meet the criteria as outlined



in the bylaws. The verification process will be completed prior to the next board meeting at which time the board will submit it to the membership if it meets all criteria. The petition addresses the current board candidate selection process.

New Business

Dial-in Policy

Bob/All

The Dial-in process was discussed by the Board. Mildred and John – as call in participants - said from their perspective it was working and beneficial to have. It was stated that 2 call ins count for 1 missed meeting.

Motion – Process of Call in to Board meetings to continue to be utilized if necessary

Motion proposed and seconded and passed.

I/N Free Play Policy

All

The June tournament policy will remain as stated on the flyer. The Board felt that the free play policy is a positive to attract first time tournament players and to continue to policy of 1 free play session.

Motion – any new registrant to ACBL at the tournament be given a full day free play coupon. The registration must be done on the day of the tournament and this proposal will entice new members to the ACBL.

Motion proposed and seconded and passed.

Communication Plan

All

Nancy reported that the Communications Team is working well and that Jeff Parker has spent considerable amount of time working on the website renovation. The existing website is 8 years old and is static, difficult to learn, update and use. A website renovation proposal was presented to the Board and Nancy made the presentation on the benefits of renovating the website.

Motion – Funding for the website renovation project to employ a contractor for not to exceed \$1,000.00 to do the work. Also approval of a 3 year contract for on-going website account maintenance of \$274.00.

Motion proposed and seconded and passed.

2017 Fall Sectional Location

Bob/Dianna

Dianna Gittelman is working on site location on the north side of Houston and will have information at our next Board meeting.



Re-enforce Bracketing with DIC

Nancy

Nancy reminded the chairs of the tournaments to re-enforce the bracketing as stated on the flyers with the DIC.

NLM Tournament

Nancy

Item tabled due to time constraints and will be discussed at our next Board meeting.

Election Judges

Bob

Bob advised the Board that Pat and Owen Bunn have resigned as election judges. Brigitte Sandifer and Jolie Hess have agreed to be election judges.

Motion – Approval of Brigitte Sandifer and Jolie Hess as election judges

Motion proposed and seconded and passed.

Bob stated he would send a thank you letter from the Board to the Bunn's for their many years of volunteering as election judges.

Unit 174 Book Seller

Bob

Discussion of activities performed by the Unit Book Seller.

Motion – to drop Unit 174 Book Seller position from the website

Motion proposed and seconded and passed.

Adventures in Bridge Booklet

Bob/All

Discussion on the benefits of having the booklet in the I/N packets

Motion – to purchase an additional 100 copies of the booklet at \$2.75 apiece.

Motion proposed and seconded and passed.

Board Approval for Committees

Bob

Discussion by the Board to ensure the full Board is aware of all appointments to committees. The full Board must approve appointments to committees prior to committee being officially formed. Bob to review wording in the procedures manual.

NAP Qualifier Location

John

John Caudill to work with Beverly Cheatham and Daniel Jackson regarding start time and bring this information to the August Board meeting.

Executive Session

Motion: To go into Executive Session.



The above motion was made by Daniel Jackson and seconded by Nancy Strohmer. The motion was approved by all. .

The Board spent 5 minutes in Executive Session.

Motion: To end Executive Session.

The above motion was made and approved by all.

Future Meeting Date

The August meeting will be held August 1 at 9:30 am at Tracy Gee's Community Center.

Adjournment

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was seconded and approved at 11:35 am

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Hudson, Secretary

