

♠ ♥ Unit 174 - HOUSTON ♦ ♣
Memorandum of Discussion
ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting
June 6, 2011
Houston Bridge Studio

Call to Order

Bob

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by president, Bob Dowlen. Directors present were: Beverly Cheatham, Paul Cuneo, Chuck Ensor, Joyce Gore, Jolie Hess, Kathy Hughes, and Errol LeCesne. Also present were Jim Woodward, Treasurer and Bert Onstott, District 16 Representative.

Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

Errol

The minutes of the May 2, 2011 meeting was approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Jim

Jim Woodward presented the **Unit 174 Balance Sheet**, as of June 6, 2011 showing Total Assets of \$122,042.85 and Total Liabilities of \$2,000.00. He also presented copies of the Unit's 2010 income tax filing.

Motion to accept the report was seconded and approved.

District Report

Bert

Bert Onstott presented a graft showing the Unit membership was down 63 from our recent high of 2,575 in April 2010. He challenged the Board to accept responsibility for growing the membership by doing things like social bridge events, working with teachers, and contacting members that failed to renew their membership. He noted that District membership was also down as well. The District membership was down 85 in the past twelve months to a total of 8,911 and that the District was in danger of losing the extra regional when the membership reached 9,000. Discussion followed and was continued during the "Membership Retention" phase of the meeting. Bert said he will look into Paul's "Message Board" suggestion for the website and noted that he did have some reservations; namely, abuse.

It was moved, second, and approved to add a message board to our website.

Bert also suggested that an “Audit Procedure” be developed for the on-line voting. The Board agreed to address that administratively. The new ENJOY PLAYING BRIDGE IN THE HOUSTON AREA flyer was delivered and he mentioned that flyers for the August tournament was done.

Old Business

The Regional

Paul

The meeting with the Marriott is now set for June 16, to discuss coffee/concession stand options. Donna Compton will be the Daily Bulletin Editor, handle babysitting, and teach the “Better Bridge by Audry Grant” course for teachers.

Flyers are done and sent to Denver, Richardson and Oklahoma. Guillermo Poplawsky will teach the ACBL Club Director’s course.

August Sectional

Kathy

Everything is set and ready to go.

October Sectional

Beverly/Chuck

Everything is set and ready to go.

Clear Lake Update

Chuck

Everything was in place and two side attractions (Golf outing & Boat on the Lake) was being considered. Dates are now 11/9 - 11/12.

NAP

Beverley

We have four qualifiers from our Unit and they will be reimbursed on a prorated basis when they return.

Membership Retention

Bob

Errol noted that the Humble/Atascocita Area (West Lake Houston to I-59 and Beltway 8 to FM 1960) has two of the largest and fastest growing developments in the nation; namely, Summerwood and Eagle Springs and no duplicate bridge club. Thus, it could be a prime location for a new club and

new members.

New Business

Bob

The Mike Lawrence Seminar is still pending.

Bridge in Schools Budget

Errol

Errol requested \$500, to begin an aggressive marketing campaign in the Houston area. He felt the timing is right, with the I.S.D.'s experiencing budget shortfalls, we offer a fully funded program to the schools.

It was moved, second, and unanimously approved.

The next board meeting is set for July 11.

The Board went into Executive Session.

Adjournment: 8:27 PM

Errol LeCesne, Secretary