



## Memorandum of Discussion

### ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

### Houston Bridge Studio

#### Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Pat Levy, President, Paul Cuneo, Vice-President, Lauri Laufman, Bob Dowlen, Joyce Ryan, Robert Reichek and Karen Nimmons. Also present was Jim Woodward, Treasurer.

#### Minutes of February Board Meeting

Minutes – The February minutes were approved via on-line voting.

#### Treasurer's Report

Jim reviewed the financial statements.

**Motion: To approve the February Financial Statement.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

Jim discussed working up the tax return for our Unit and Pat suggested he submit a bill for his work, as the Unit would have to pay an outside accountant for their services. Jim agreed to do that.

#### Committee Reports

##### Membership

**John**

The membership increased from 2,556 at the beginning of the month to 2,569 at the end of February. The Unit had 18 new members sign up.

##### BridgePads

**John**

John received an invoice from the BridgePad Company for their shipping and handling costs to the Unit and for our usage during the Regional. Our usage was based on our reporting to them. John forwarded a copy of this invoice to Jim Woodward.



## **GNT**

**John**

The Grand National Teams qualifying event was held Feb. 21 at the Houston Bridge Studio, and there were only seven teams competing in Flight B and only two teams in Flight C. Since there were so few teams, the board discussed ways of getting the message out to players and how to explain to newer players what this event is all about. An individual e-mail to all the players in the Unit who have a computer was a possibility.

## **Supplies**

**Lauri**

Lauri reported supplies are up to date and the Mini-McKenney medallions have been ordered.

## **Member Communications Committee**

Betty Freedman is looking for a replacement for herself. As of yet, she hasn't found one. The board will explore possibilities.

## **Social Bridge**

The Social Bridge Event was held February 27, 2010 at Bridge Club of Houston. There were 12 tables and a follow-up inviting the participants to the club will follow. The board discussed the next possible venue with follow-up discussions for the future. No decision was made on the matter.

## **Fund Raising**

**Bob**

No checks were received from Randalls Supermarket.

## **Flyers, Trophies and Medallions**

**Karen**

Karen reported she is down to 5 prepaid life master plaques and asked the board if she should purchase another 50.

**Motion: To approve the purchase of 50 LM plaques.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

She also reported flyers for the April Sectional will be mailed to clubs shortly, and they are out at the Studio and all the community centers.

## **Old Business**

### **Lone Star Regional**

**Pat**

Pat reported she did a geographic representation of the players who attended the event. It was just for her curiosity.

### **April Sectional**

**Robert**

Bob and Robert reported everything is under control.

### **June Sectional**

The board discussed entries and decided to lower the entry fee to \$5 on Friday Night. The Sunday start time was also discussed. Karen suggested 9:30 and Bob liked 10:30. Lauri suggested 10:00 as a compromise, and Paul said he would submit the change to ACBL. The Sunday meal was also discussed, but nothing was decided.



## Zero Tolerance Update

Paul

Paul updated our Unit 174 ZTP to be more in line with the ACBL policy. The guidelines were assembled as a result of requests from the club managers and directors who attended the Unit's Seminar on Zero Tolerance at the Regional.

**Motion: To accept the Zero Tolerance Policy and Slow Play Policy that was presented to the Board.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

There was discussion on distributing them to the various clubs.

**Motion: To distribute the copies of the policies to the various clubs in our Unit.**

The motion was seconded and approved.

## June Sectional 2011

It is scheduled to be held in Bryan/College Station and Bob Dowlen will co-chair the event.

## New Business

### Polaroid and Fuji Cameras

The board discussed using eBay as a source for finding the film for those cameras. There will be further discussion later.

### Sound System

Paul

Instead of renting the hotel's sound system for our tournaments, Paul suggested the unit purchase one. It was discussed and Paul said he would do more research and would report on it next month.

### Scorecard Replacement

The board discussed a replacement for Anne Page and came up with a few possibilities. Pat said she would follow up. She also reported Ira Hessel wrote a few paragraphs about Anne and asked the board members if any of them would like to add to it. Ira will publish the comments in the next Scorecard.

### Tournament Seeding Committee

Pat

It was brought to Pat's attention that the directors don't seed the field at the sectionals as well as it should be, and that a volunteer would be needed to help out. How to go about doing this would be the next step and discussion followed. Nothing was decided.

### Clubs Purchasing BridgePads

The BridgePads were a big success at the LSR, and a few clubs might be purchasing them for their players. The board discussed maybe renting them from those clubs for our future tournaments.

### Annual Meeting

It was decided that pictures will be taken of all the recipients that won a Mini-McKenney or Ace of Clubs award at the Annual Meeting. It was decided that Karen would call out the name, and Pat would pass out the award. The photographer will take individual pictures.



## Charity for Houston Ground Angels and Pilots

Pat

Pat reported that the Unit was approached to sponsor a charity for the benefit of "Houston Ground Angels and Pilots". Joyce said that several clubs hold charity games on a regular basis, and they might consider sponsoring this organization in one of their games. Pat is going to inform the person to contact the clubs and ask them to hold a charity game for the benefit of HGAP.

## Adjourn

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

The motion was seconded and approved at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Nimmons

Acting Secretary

