



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

April 3, 2023

Tracy Gee Community Center

Call to Order

Kathleen McDougall

President Kathleen McDougall brought the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. Present at the meeting were Kathleen McDougall, Karen Nussbaum, Clif Rice, Steve Gordon, Greg May, Charles Dalton, Byron Fackenthall, John DuBose and Sarah Springer. Thomas Rush was unable to attend. Nancy Strohmmer was also present. Brigitte Sandifer attended the last part of the meeting, as did Paul Cuneo.

Approval of Minutes

Sarah Springer

SS presented minutes from **March 6, 2023** which had previously been circulated via email to the Board. **GM moved that the minutes be approved**, SG seconded, and all were in favor. **MINUTES for the 3/6/23 meeting were APPROVED.**

Treasurer's Report

Steve Gordon

Treasurer Steve Gordon announced that the Unit's 2022 tax return had been filed. He will have the annual report ready for the annual meeting at the upcoming sectional. Due to the fact that the 2022 Lone Star Regional is in the report and not the 2023 LSR, he plans to include the 2023 numbers to show the improvement. He noted that more expenses related to the 2023 LSR had come in so that our losses stand in excess of \$12,000. There is currently \$127,000 in the bank as of today. Losses so far this year are about \$13,000, almost all related to the LSR. SG is working with Vanguard on our investments. Everyone expressed appreciation for the great job SG does as Treasurer.

Technology

Greg May

GM noted that our Box account has been renewed. SG stated that he had to spend \$41 to obtain the software required to efile our tax return.



Procedure Manual**Clif Rice**

CR stated he is continuing to work on the updates to the Policies and Procedures Manual—he has nine changes to complete. KM suggested there be a bylaws revision to add retention and recruitment of members as a focus of the Board of Directors, in addition to our focus on tournaments.

District Update**Betty Starzec**

No Report.

Club Connection**John DuBose**

The next Club Connection game will be scheduled after the newly elected Board Members join the Unit Board. The Club Connection in College Station at the Star Bridge Club was very successful. BF and CD played with members of the club rather than partnering with members of the Board, and suggested it as a great way to get more in touch with the members of the visited club. The Board visit to the club should also be publicized to focus attention on the various clubs in our Unit.

Club Manager Report**Greg May**

No report.

Supplies and Warehouse**Clif Rice**

CR stated that he went to the warehouse for Paul Nimmons to retrieve supplies for the election. CR has ordered golf pencils and computer paper.

Committee Reports**Charity Report****Nancy Strohmer**

NS stated that the last Charity Games were March 31; she will have a report on the amount raised at next month's meeting.

I/N /Future Life Masters**Kathleen McDougall, Greg May**

The IN/FLM leaders have a meeting every other Tuesday at 7:30 AM. GM suggested that after the election a Board Member should be selected to attend these meetings. GM stated that the FLM program is going really well and there is excitement generating already about the August I/N Regional at our Sectional. The virtual games consistently have 4-5 tables.



Education

Kathy McDougall

KM stated that there is a new novice bridge class starting soon on Saturdays at Shriners with Joyce Ryan and Timo Erkoc teaching. BF noted that there are bridge classes now offered at Tracy Gee's as well.

New Member Recruitment

Charles Dalton

KM stated that we need to seek volunteers from the membership to form a task force to recruit new members. She plans to make an announcement at the Annual Meeting at the upcoming Sectional. SS suggested that sign-up sheets be available for people to volunteer.

Member Communication

Allison Ochsner and Evvie Gilbert

Our webmaster and newsletter editor continue to do a fabulous job.

NAP/GNT

Karen Nussbaum

NS stated that the winners of the B bracket have been determined (that team won every match at the recent Dallas competition), but only one team at present is competing in the C bracket. She stated there needs to be an announcement on the website concerning the need for C players to enter the competition. It was suggested that Betty Westbrook and Cindy Cox could be asked to encourage C players to participate in the GNT. There is a \$2000 subsidy for attending the Nationals in Chicago for our teams. The winning B team are: Kristen Onsgard, Stefanie Scott, Patricia Herrera, and Isaac Stone.

Awards

Karen Nussbaum

KN mailed the life master plaques except for Janice Hardcastle's. KM presented Janice's plaque at Tracy Gee Community Center.

Executive Session

SG, NS, and BS were excused briefly for the Executive Session.

April Election Sectional tournament

Charles Dalton and Clif Rice

CR will email to BOD the revised budget by Wednesday along with a draft of the poster which will honor those who were honored by naming at the LSR.

KN reported continued issues with the printed directory, and noted that all the information is on-line and there is really no need to print the directory. **GM moved that we no longer provide a printed directory**, SS seconded the motion. CR suggested that if we are not providing the printed directory, the password requirement for that area of the website should be eliminated. After discussion, the **Motion Passed**. KN will contact the Webmaster concerning moving the directory to Unit Pages.

KM stated that the annual meeting presentation will be less than 30 minutes. She will email the PowerPoint to the Board for review and comment. KN will bring the Unit's



projector which is stored at her home to the annual meeting. She noted that she has water and sodas for the refreshments at the Sectional. KN will call the Ladies of the Nile on the lunch purchase procedures.

June Sectional

Thomas Rush and John DuBose

The June flyer is not ready; the budget needs work.

August Sectional

Sarah Springer and Byron Fackenthal

SS and BF reported that all chair positions have been filled. A draft budget was circulated to the Board. GM has prepared a two-page flyer which will be immediately published to satisfy the eager inquiries about the I/N Regional which are already coming in.

Galveston Tournament

No report.

New Business

KN displayed a clip which connects the bidding boxes to the table as are seen in use at the Nationals and suggested we should invest in them. If we purchase 1000 of them, they are \$1 each. **SS moved that the Unit purchase the clips**, KN seconded the motion. After discussion, all **approved the motion** except CR who stated he preferred to start with a test sample. NS suggested that BF make the purchase with his military discount.

Executive Session

KM announced that the Board would move to executive session. SS moved that SG and NS be invited to stay. After discussion, all were in favor. PC also attended the Executive Session.

Following the Executive Session, GM moved that the issue discussed should be tabled until our next meeting. JD seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by NS. CD seconded. All were in favor.

Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Springer, Unit 174 Board Secretary

