



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

December 9, 2019

Tracy Gee Community Center

Call to order

Lauri Laufman

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Directors in attendance: Cindy Cox, Nancy Guthrie, David Henke, Lauri Laufman, Jack LaVigne, Kathleen Malcolmson, Clif Rice, Nancy Strohmer and Sheryl Thomas. Others present: Gary Hercules-Treasurer, Karen Nussbaum.

Nomination Committee

Nancy Strohmer

The Flyer presenting the final slate of candidates has been approved. Nancy Strohmer and the Nomination Committee have completed their task. The Board thanks them for their service.

Board Member Replacement

Lauri Laufman

As a result of a board vacancy created by Daniel Jackson's resignation, due to moving to another Unit, the Board has determined to fill the position for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Motion: To approve Nancy Strohmer to fill the position left vacant by Daniel Jackson for the remaining time left on his term.

The motion was made by Cindy Cox, seconded by Sheryl Thomas, and approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Kathleen Malcolmson

The meeting minutes were prepared and emailed to the Board. These minutes will be posted on the website as "Pending Approval", to allow for changes and approval at the next board meeting.



Treasurer's Report

Gary Hercules

The October 2019 Financial Statements were verified and emailed.

Motion: That the October 2019 Financial Statements be approved.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie, seconded by David Henke, and approved by all but Nancy Strohmer, who abstained.

The November 2019 Financial Statements were verified and emailed.

Motion: That the November 2019 Financial Statements be approved.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie, seconded by Sheryl Thomas, and approved by all.

Old Business

November 2019 Sectional

Jack LaVigne/Cindy Cox

Entertainment costs, although donated by members, were included in the Summary Report since they added to the whole tournament experience. This information should be considered for any future tournaments located in Galveston. There should be some form of evening entertainment in the future for Galveston tournaments.

If at Moody Gardens, it is recommended that the room block should be located in the North Tower in consideration of players with mobility issues.

Tournament loss was about \$1000. The tournament was budgeted to lose \$7000.

LSR 2020 Regional

Lauri Laufman/Jack LaVigne

Marriott: Awaiting event sheets. A/V quote received for Saturday evening showing of the movie Aces and Knaves is \$724.50.

Special Events:

Tue and Sat: 0-5 Morning Game - free and supervised.

Tue: I/N Reception (0-299) - after 2nd session.

Wed or Thu: Volunteer Appreciation Day.

Fri: Teacher Appreciation Day.

Sat: D16 BOD Meeting (and breakfast); Before 2nd session - D16 Star Award Announcements; After 2nd session - Aces & Knaves movie showing.



Speakers: Speaker poster is finalized. Ordering two (2) copies. Sending speaker information to Scorecard to be included in Jan/Feb issue.

Advertising: ACBL Bridge Bulletin ad is confirmed for November and December issues. Scorecard confirmed for Nov/Dec. Scorecard is providing extra publicity for Aces & Knaves. Scorecard announcement again in Jan/Feb issue.

Other Publicity: Carol Wilson is developing copy for reaching out to newspapers and magazines publicizing the tournament, the 0-5 games, and the Aces & Knaves showing. The first note went out this past week to the Chronicle. ACBL Co-op funds may be possible if needed.

Daily Bulletin: Meeting with the publisher Dec. 13th. All board members are encouraged to sell ads. Packages offered.

Registration gifts: The main gift has arrived and will be delivered to our storage unit this week. Other items will be ordered this week.

Chairs: Hospitality, Partnership, I/N & Caddy are well prepared for the LSR.

Photographer: Al Fortier has confirmed.

Event Naming: Jack LaVigne reported that sales are coming along and shared some of the details. It was decided that sales will close prior to Christmas and all write-ups and photos will be due before the end of the year.

Director's Refresher Course: Seven people have signed up to date. This event is mentioned in the Bridge Bulletin and Scorecard. Would like to send out a District-wide mention. This event takes place every three years and rotates with the Director's Course and Best Practices Teacher's Course.

Exhibiting Vendors (1) Book Sales: Jeremy Lewis has confirmed. **(2) Clothing Sales:** Graham Crackers has confirmed. **(3) Jewelry Sales:** Kathy Hines has confirmed.

ACBL President: An invitation to attend our LSR was sent to the new ACBL President Georgia Heath last week. Awaiting a response.

Bridge Pads: Apple, BCOH, Clear Lake & Westside clubs have confirmed that they will provide the bridge pads.



Aces & Knives – The quote from Ulvis (A/V) is \$724.50. Awaiting options for hospitality. Betty Starzec is helping to wordsmith a letter asking clubs for discounted classes and support in promoting.

District Breakfast: The Richmond Room and breakfast information has been requested from Romy at the Marriott. Will confirm with Nancy Strohmer and Rebecca Brown once received.

Restaurant Guide: Jack LaVigne is working on this. He is looking for volunteers to help with this project.

Team Game Screens: Jack LaVigne and Clif Rice are coordinating the acquisition of needed equipment. Purchase of a new 5500 lumen projector has been recommended by Jack for the Unit vs. renting, due to high rental fees, for this and future tournaments.

Motion: To approve the purchase of the presented 5500 lumen projector and related accessories for Unit 174 use up to \$2000.

The motion was made by Clif Rice, seconded by Nancy Strohmer and approved unanimously.

April 2020 Sectional

Clif Rice/Jack LaVigne

The speakers will be Betty Starzec and Dave Glandorf.

Coffee price has increased and will be \$2.00 for this tournament.

The Annual Meeting will take place at 9:15 and last about 20 minutes. Breakfast chits should be handed out from 9:00-9:20 a.m. A sign-in sheet will be provided for members to provide their name and ACBL number to receive a breakfast chit. This will be up to \$11. Discuss with the Marriott how to monitor the actual cost of food purchased.

The Awards and Election announcements will take place just prior to the second session. The Flyers should announce that this will take place at 2:20 p.m. It will take seven (7) minutes to make these announcements.

Motion: To approve the following -

- 1) Reduce entry fees to \$11 Fri, \$11 Sat, \$10 Sun;**
- 2) Lunch not provided (lunch on your own) Sunday;**
- 3) Breakfast chit, up to \$11, for those attending the Annual Mtg on Sunday;**
- 4) Offer \$1 Concession chits on Fri/Sat.**

The motion was made by Nancy Strohmer, seconded by Nancy Guthrie and approved unanimously.



New Member Recruitment / Retention

All

No report.

STaC

Sheryl Thomas

STaC is on schedule. Thirteen clubs are registered to participate to date.

GNT

Clif Rice

Confirmed dates for clubs holding GNT qualifiers were in the Dec. Events Newsletter. The flyer is not yet put together.

Action Item: Ask webmaster to post the GNT qualifier dates online.

NAP

Clif Rice

The listing of qualified players is available and has been emailed to individuals.

Although the Board has previously approved a motion to join the responsibilities of GNT and NAP, Lauri Laufman brought discussion to have this decision reversed. The point was made that the duties and responsibilities of both are separate and distinct.

Motion: To have GNT and NAP separate events and duties in procedure Manual.

The motion was made by David Henke, seconded by Nancy Guthrie and approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Club Connection

Nancy Guthrie

December 11th at Clear Lake Bridge Club. Play begins at 10 a.m.



Charity Report**Nancy Strohmer**

Clubs will have until January 10th, 2020 to pay the funds that have been collected. There will be a report in February.

There has been good feedback from members of 2020's chosen charity Dress 4 Success.

A \$2,500 check has been donated to ACBL Unit 174's 2020 Charity, Dress 4 Success, by Gerald Lott of Compatible Components Corporation.

For future consideration – Look into purchasing a large, laminate check for presentations.

Nancy Strohmer has been re-elected as the NABC's President of the Charity Foundation.

Directory**David Henke**

All tasks have been accomplished. Please make announcements at games about updating player's Directory listings.

Education**Betty Starzec**

No report.

Intermediate/Newcomer (& New Member)**Cindy Cox**

Need players from central Houston for 299er Ambassadors at the LSR. Please contact Cindy Cox if you qualify (up to 299 mps) and are interested in helping out.

There will be a Student Game at the Election Sectional. Rob Burrige will bring about twenty of his bridge students. Parent/Grandparent and child partnerships are being encouraged during this game.

Motion: To have the Unit subsidize the Student ACBL Membership fee of \$5 for Dr. Burrige's students at the Student Game at the Election Sectional.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie, seconded by Sheryl Thomas and approved unanimously.

Member Communications**Catherine Miller**

No report.

Nominating Committee**Nancy Strohmer**

The campaigning is now beginning.



Supplies**Clif Rice**

Have purchased the supplies and equipment as approved in prior meetings. Please report new purchases in December to Clif so that he may include them in inventory.

Other**Bridge in Schools****Kathleen Malcolmson**

No report.

Awards**Sheryl Thomas**

Unit 174 has had three advancements to Life Master, Jane Joplin, Brad Chandler and Robert Burridge.

New Business**Pianola****Lauri Laufman/Jack LaVigne**

The ACBL will no longer send emails about tournaments on behalf of Units, Districts and tournament Chairs as of January 1, 2020. Pianola will now be used for Unit and District business. This license of Pianola is not for club use. Each e-blast will be paid for individually. The rate will vary based on the quantity sent. The ACBL sends e-blasts for Units up to a 200-mile radius, for District business it is 500-miles. For Unit 174, which is geographically large, this is not seen as sufficient. Lauri Laufman requested that the ACBL increase the Unit's coverage to include all of D16 and part of Louisiana, to which the ACBL has approved.

District 16 Update**Kathleen Malcolmson**

No report.

Procedure Manual**Kathleen Malcolmson**

Expect edits to review via email on Thursday, Dec. 12th.

Tournament Contracts/Future**Lauri Laufman/Jack LaVigne**

No updates.



Unit Event Sanctions

Lauri Laufman

An email has been sent to the clubs with the 2020 Unit Event dates that have been sanctioned. One Unit Championship date has been left open for the time being.

December Unit STaC games were removed to give clubs more flexibility to schedule parties. March events removed, as well. STaC for 2020 will be in August and October.

June 2020

Lauri Laufman

Cindy Cox has been assigned to Chair the event. Co-Chair will be a new Board Member.

Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 11:04, exiting at 11:10.

Adjournment

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was made by David Henke, seconded by Jack LaVigne; approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Next Board Meeting will be on Jan. 6th, 9:30 a.m. at Tracy Gee Community Center.

The Feb. Board Meeting will be on the 1st, after the 10:30 a.m. Set-Up at the Marriott Westchase concludes.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Malcolmson, Unit 174 Secretary

