



**Memorandum of Discussion**  
**ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting**  
**December 4, 2023**  
**Tracy Gee Community Center**

**Call to Order**

**Karen Nussbaum**

President Karen Nussbaum brought the meeting to order at 9:20 am. Board members present at the meeting were Charles Dalton, Dave Becker, John Eric Watson, Nile Gross, Sarah Springer, John Dubose, Steve Gordon, and Paddy Fiorino. Also present were Betty Starzec (district president) and Bridgette Sandifer. Jane Armstrong arrived later in the meeting to address the board. Thomas Rush and Antoun Henri were absent from the meeting.

**Apple club games**

**Karen Nussbaum**

KN announced that (during the meeting prior to the board meeting today) it has been decided that the Apple club games will be under the unit 501C4 umbrella for taxation purposes.

**Approval of minutes**

**Paddy Fiorino**

SS moved that the minutes previously circulated via email to the board for the previous board meeting be approved. DB seconded the motion and **minutes for the November 13, 2023 meeting were APPROVED.**



**Treasurer's Report****Steve Gordon**

Steve Gordon addressed the board about the unit's current financial status. A copy of this month's check register was previously distributed via email to board members. SG stated there was approximately \$19,000 in checking and \$106,000 in the Vanguard accounts. He stated there are still StaC funds outstanding and JW is in contact with 2 clubs to receive this payment (now if they are to participate in StaC games this week). Betty Starzec advised the board that the procedure for payment to the unit for ACBL renewal is changing from the current 11% flat rate. She stated the new structure will vary from 5-15% (5 % for membership, 5% for maintaining membership, and 5% for growth. She said this will incentivize the units to work on renewals for those persons listed as unpaid on the In-and-Out Reports. This will be effective sometime during 2024.

**Club Manager Report****Greg May, Paddy Fiorino**

PF presented an email summary from Greg May. He reported 4 tables at the 0-50 unit game on 11/27/23. As of November 30, the following table counts are noted: 2023-184; 2022-207; 2021-171.

**Technology****Karen Nussbaum**

SG remains as the contact person for Box issues. SG was also instructed to update the sales tax exemption form currently in Box.

**Procedure Manual and Bylaws****Sarah Springer**

SS stated the StaC bracket strat levels are not in the policy& procedure manual or bylaws currently. SS has discussed this with Kevin Perkins and KN. It was decided that fluidity of the StaC strats are needed to balance the levels. Hence, nothing is needed to be added or changed to the procedure manual in this matter.

**Club Connection****Sarah Springer**

SS stated the next club connection game will be in February 2024. Location and date are still to be determined.

**Bryan Sectional****Karen Nussbaum**

KN stated the planned sectional at Bryan has been cancelled, and the hotel



and the Bryan club have been notified. KN is looking at hotel availability in the Woodlands for Oct 25-27 as an alternate site. The previously hired magician (who was given a \$500 deposit) will be contacted re: his availability when alternate plans have been established.

### **Event Naming**

**Jane Armstrong**

JA announced that 8-9 events have been sold for the LSR to date. Funds of \$3150 have been collected. SS and DB purchased additional events during the meeting today.

### **Tournament Contracts- Shriners**

**Karen Nussbaum**

KN stated that 3 contracts are pending signature with the Shriners for the April, June, and August 2024 tournaments.

### **FLM/Budget**

**Karen Nussbaum**

KN distributed a copy of the proposed 2024 FLM budget. SS motioned to maintain the previously approved \$2500 allowance and pay the requested \$1000 at this time. The motion was seconded by CD. This motion was passed.

### **Lone Star Regional**

**Karen Nussbaum**

SS stated that 4 persons have signed up for the LSR Best Practices class. There is an 8- person minimum for the class. These people are being instructed to mail a check for \$75 directly to SG. KN stated the Marriott budget is still pending. The budget needs to be approved by the board once finalized. The Daily Bulletin co-chairs are NG and AH. SG and JW will assist with the new spreadsheet format. KN stated the LSR flyers will be updated again to include additional scheduled events. There will also be a notification that persons with 12,000+ MP must play in the Mini-Soloway on the days it is available. KN stated there will be ads for the LSR in the December and January Bridge Bulletin issues. Additional volunteers are still needed for the LSR. PF stated that sign-up sheets at the registration table at the Apple games has been effective in the past. KN stated that she is still working on scheduling speakers for the LSR. Hallie Eads is the chairman of the Nominating Committee. She has 4 candidates with 2 other possibles currently. Free plays for the LSR will be distributed by SG as per the policy and procedure manual. SG will order \$1000 worth of \$2 dollar bills for the LSR and subsequent 2024 tournaments. Rick will be the caddy



and will be making the boards. SS suggested that actual coupons for the volunteer luncheon with the place/date/time be printed and distributed to the volunteers to improve awareness and attendance.

### **Next meeting**

**Karen Nussbaum**

The next board meeting will be January 8, 2024. SS agreed to do the minutes for this meeting. KN distributed via e-mail the proposed 2024 meeting schedule this past weekend to board members.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn** made by DB. NG seconded. All were in favor.

***Motion carried***

***The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Paddy Fiorino, Unit 174 Board Secretary*

