



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

February 7, 2022

Tracy Gee Community Center

Call to Order

Karen Nussbaum

President Karen Nussbaum brought the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. Present at the meeting were Karen Nussbaum, Kathleen McDougall, Clif Rice, Thomas Rush, Dave Becker (via Zoom), Greg May, Betty Starzek, Charles Dalton (via Zoom), Joyce Gore, Lauri Laufman and Nancy Stohmer.

Approval of Minutes

Clif Rice

CR stated that he emailed the January minutes to the Board prior to this meeting. Several corrections/additions were discussed. DB made a motion to approve the minutes. It was decided that CR would make the changes discussed and email the minutes to the Board for their review and approval by email vote.

Treasurer's Report

Dave Becker

DB stated that the December financials are in and have been approved by the Verifier. There will be a change in bank at the end of the month. There is still a bill to come in from the Marriott for the Lone Star Regional. The anticipated loss is anywhere from \$49,000 to \$60,000. DB will forward the Verifier's report to the Board.

Technology

Greg May

There has been an issue with some Board members concerning receipt of emails. There were issues with the sound system at the Marriott at the Regional. CR suggested that the Procedure Manual include a sound check prior to the tournament. BS stated that the extra \$1 for the Saturday games was not collected and that we need to be sure to do that next time. She further stated that the Marriott people need a picture of how things need to be set up.



KN stated that she had sent via email proposed changes to the Policy and Procedures manual. 2021 changes need to be approved. CR moved to approve 2021 Policy and Procedure manual as submitted by LL. Motion was seconded. **MOTION PASSED.** LL suggested that the Secretary should take up the task of keeping the manual updated. Discussion followed of what should be in the policy and procedures manual. Discussion moved on to KN's suggested changes, such as duplications between section 1.2 and 3.2. Should reference 3.2 in 1.2 as it explains duties. JG suggested that LL and KN get together to discuss all the changes. Discussion of the hotel room for the Head Caddy. CR moved to reflect change in procedure manual that head caddy will no longer receive a hotel room or compensation for expenses at any tournament. JG seconded. All were in favor. **MOTION PASSED.** CR made motion that procedure manual reflect that Treasurer is to issue 1099's to contractors per IRS rules and regulations. TR seconded. All were in favor. **MOTION PASSED.** KN: Procedure manual needs to include procedures for making boards for the Regional. DB noted that procedure manual needs to include renting of bridge mates from the Bridge Clubs.

Further discussion of the Lone Star Regional ensued, including discussion of complaints that the chairs were uncomfortable, Houston players were unfriendly, mask complaints, etc. DB noted that JG did a great job with the Covid desk, and stated that no cases of Covid were reported from our tournament. It was agreed that DB should expense masks and wristbands rather than inventory them as assets. KN stated that the timing of the lunchtime speaker should be moved to 1PM so that people can hear the speaker after eating and before games restart at 1:30. Co-Chair and Chair should discuss with the DIC the number of directors needed. ACBL recommends one director for every 12 tables. The DIC sent people home and saved the Unit a lot of money.

JG stated that the Board should be presented a budget for the flyer, the schedule should be approved by the board, and the fees to be charged attendees should also be approved by the board.

Discussion about the schedule. It was agreed that the schedule should remain the same. Hotel rates were also an issue. Cannot control what the Marriott does. Need to work on who is playing and staying at the hotel so we can get credit against the room block—some people are using points and Expedia to get lower rates and we are not getting credit. Need to request that Marriott ascertain on check-in if the people are playing in the tournament so we can get proper credit.

NS congratulated the Board for doing a fabulous job on the Regional. KN acknowledged that everyone had worked really hard under difficult conditions.

KN stated that she gave \$100 gift cards to Landry's to the speakers who did a fabulous job especially with Covid etc. One of the speakers returned his card; KN wanted to trade the card in to Landry's and get two \$50 gift cards to give to the Webmasters at the Sectional. Everyone agreed this was appropriate and well deserved by our wonderful webmasters. TR made motion to give the gift cards to Webmasters. All approved. BS suggested that gift cards not be given to speakers at the Regional; they should be given



cash as they may be unable to use the gift cards outside this area. KN pointed out that Landry's restaurants are nationwide.

JG raised the Covid issue. People did not want to show their vaccination card. JG asked one of the Directors to intercede. The player had played at the National tournament, had the app on his phone, and the director approved his playing.

District Update

Lauri Laufman

LL gave the District Report noting that Betty Starzec had been elected President. (Applause!) Ken Monzingo was elected Vice President, Dave Ticen 2nd Vice President, Kristen Onsgard Secretary, and Tom Trudeau Treasurer. The Ozwald and Jacoby Awards will be presented at the Dallas Regional; June 30 is the deadline for nominations. The District 16 Goodwill Committee will now be selected by the District President. March is ACBL Charity Month, with Charity games on BBO April 4-10. GNTs will also be on BBO rather than in person and will take place Memorial Day weekend. Royal STAC games will be held January 24-30 in Districts 3, 4, and 24. Royal STAC in District 16 will be April 11 to 17. As of January 31, additional evening games will be offered for 199rs on BBO; local clubs will get payments. Sue Caulfield is the new editor of The District 16 Scorecard. The Scorecard is waiving fees for publication of sectional tournament flyers. The District is working on a Policies and Procedures manual which will include job descriptions. LL complimented Unit 174 for having a Policies and Procedure Manual.

Jack LaVigne is the new Scorecard Representative.

Club Connection

Thomas Rush

No Report.

Club Manager Report

Greg May

There were four full tables for the 0-20 game last week. No game was held during the LSR, of course.

Tournament Contracts/ Future Sites

Dave Becker

DB reported that the Marriott had issued a purchase order for new chairs but they canceled it due to delays. Instead they paid \$40,000 to refurbish the existing chairs which produced no noticeable improvement. Some people paid too much for their hotel rooms and we should get credits; some people with Marriott status got cheaper rates than what Marriott contracted with us. The Shriners in April is still a go; hotels have given us reduced rates for attendees.

JG stated that there were additional problems with the Marriott, for example staff not arriving until 8:20 to unlock doors. BS stated that if there are issues, Mo (at the Marriott) will do anything to help. He was given a \$200 tip.



Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Charity Report

Nancy Strohmer

The District Charity games will be March 22-25 with the proceeds from the games on the 23rd and the 24th coming back to the Unit for our charity, the Houston Food Bank. There were only two charity games for all of 2021. Unit Charity Games will be from March 22-April 1.

I/N /Future Life Masters

KN mentioned the 0-5 games held at Shriners on Sundays and Sam Kayak had requested reimbursement of expenses. DB has contacted Shriners to book the dates. GM stated that the board had previously authorized reimbursements for these games up to \$500 per year.

DB stated that the FLM party at the Regional was a huge success and great morale booster and that we should do it every year.

Education

Kathy McDougall

No Report.

New Member Recruitment

Charles Dalton

No Report.

Unit Newsletter

Jeanne Phelps

No Report. KN noted that the editors are doing a fine job.

Publicity

No Report.

Website & Information

Carol Winograd

No Report. KN noted that the webmasters are amazing.

NAP

Karen Naussbaum

JG stated that people were very disappointed and unhappy with the NAP. It was held on Sunday and there were only six tables. It was discussed that the main problem was that the conditions of the tournament (only one day) were not fully disclosed to the players. Issues such as this should be addressed with the Directors prior to the commencement of the event.



Awards**Clif Rice**

JG stated that she got the plaques for new LM's for Sarah Springer, Rupa Shaw, and Twyla Woody. TR was present at BCOH and presented the awards in person at their F2F game.

DB stated that \$2 bills should be the only awards given future events.

April Election Sectional tournament**Charles Dalton and Kathy McDougall**

KM is working on the brochure; GM will make the changes. KN stated that we may need to schedule another Zoom meeting to approve the budget and the brochure for this tournament. BS noted that Adventures in Duplicate is out of print and cannot be given to new players.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment**Motion to adjourn*****Motion carried******The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Clif Rice, Unit 174 Board Secretary, by Sarah Springer**(Transcribed for Clif Rice from Zoom recording made at the meeting. SS was not present at the meeting and was not Unit Secretary at the time of the meeting.)*