



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

January 4th, 2010

Houston Bridge Studio

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm. Present were Pat Levy, President, Paul Cuneo, Vice-President, John Erickson, Secretary, Bob Dowlen, Robert Reichel, Kathy Hughes, and Joyce Ryan.

Also present for part of the meeting was Jim Woodward – Treasurer.

Minutes of December Board Meeting

The minutes of the December meeting were approved by on-line poll.

Treasurer's Report

Jim

Jim submitted preliminary financial reports dated December 31, 2009. He noted the prepaid expenses and deferred revenue on the balance sheet which are related to next month's Regional. Jim will present final yearend statements for approval at the next board meeting.

There was some discussion about whether an audit of 2009 financial statements would be advisable. Pat will discuss with Norm Gautier.

Jim is completing a credit application from the Westchase Marriott in order to handle some of the Marriott expenditures for the Lone Star Regional.

Committee Reports

STAC

Bob

Seventeen unit clubs have registered to hold STAC games during the week of January 11-17. Tom Whitesides will be the Director in Charge.

2009 Pro-Am

Paul

Six trophies were awarded to the winning pairs in each flight. The winners were: Mack Meigs – Patsy Howell, Flight A; Eric Watson – Patti Mullendore, Flight B; Don Deal – Johnny Gillis, Flight C.



Member Communications Committee

John

Betty Freedman submitted a report showing that attempts were made to contact at least 34 members. Kay Kennedy has agreed to replace Betty as of the first of the year. Betty will mentor her until she gets up to speed.

At Betty's request, John sent an email to Gail Dowling to compliment her on her meticulous work in contacting new members.

Membership

John

Unit membership totals 2,564 as of November 30. This is an increase of 67 in the last month, and we had 73 new members join our Unit. All those who were instrumental in signing up so many new members before year end are to be commended.

NAP/GNT

Robert

NAP – The Unit will be sending 14, 17, and 9 qualifiers out of flights A, B, and C, respectively, to the District finals held in Austin on January 9-10, 2010. Robert made numerous contacts to insure that our unit will be sending as many pairs as had qualified.

GNT – An online flyer is on the unit website, advising unit members of the upcoming Flights B & C events on Sunday, February 21st at the Houston Bridge Studio. John is also working on getting out paper flyers to the clubs.

Fund Raising

Bob

Randall's sent us a check for \$29.29 as a rebate for ACBL members' participation in the Good Neighbor program.

Supplies

Lauri

Needed supplies for the Regional were ordered from Baron Barclay including 360 decks of new playing cards. The move of our warehouse location was completed.

Bridge in Schools

From January 5th through January 11th, Sandy Stevens, Brigitte Sandifer and Natalie Wernet are providing 18 hours of teaching instruction to 37 students at the Westchester Academy. Lauri will provide bidding boxes.

Old Business

Lone Star Regional

Paul

A meeting will be held on January 5th with Marriott personnel to finalize more details. The Regional Prep Meeting will be held at the Marriott on January 22nd. Committee chairmen and board members are invited to attend. Quality ball point pens, as well as \$2 bills will be offered as section top prizes. Pat received responses from ten area restaurants, which will offer a 5% or 10% discount for players during the tournament.

The Salute to Lynne Graham will take place Thursday after the morning session. Bags have been ordered for 100 of Lynne's former students. Joyce ordered 500 wallet-sized calendars for distribution to novice players.



Holiday Party Reimbursement

Pat

One club requested reimbursement for two parties.

Motion: Unit clubs will be eligible for only one holiday party reimbursement per season.

The motion was seconded and approved.

New Business

Sectional Tournament Sites

Paul

Paul will ask the Marriott about holding the 2011 Election Sectional. It is intended for Bryan to be the site of the June 2011 Sectional.

Election Sectional

Starting times on Saturday will be 10:30 am and 3:30 pm. The board discussed following up the \$5 Friday at the October Sectional with another \$5 session in April.

Motion: To have a \$5 entry fee for the second (afternoon) session on Saturday at the Election Sectional.

The motion was seconded and approved.

June Sectional

Starting times on Saturday will be 10:30 am and 3:30 pm. Robert will contact Lynda Breland at the Stafford Centre to get a copy of our contract. Our deposit for the tournament was paid last year. Robert will prepare a letter requesting waiver of overtime fees at the Stafford Centre.

Electronic Scoring Pads

John

The BridgePad electronic scoring devices have been received by the Unit. John brought several to the meeting for inspection. We will attempt to test the system prior to the Regional, possibly in the Tuesday night game at the Studio.

Social Bridge

Robert

The BCOH event is now scheduled for Saturday, February 27th. Beverley Cheatham is chairing the event and sent a memo to Pat describing preparations. Robert attended a January 2nd planning meeting. Lauri has been contacted about providing convention card holders and mugs for prizes.

We will be asking Beverley for feedback on what percentage of participants join the ACBL.

I/N Tournaments

Motion: To require Unit clubs to consult with the I/N Coordinator in scheduling I/N tournaments.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Director Test

Walter Arnold requested permission to administer the Certified Director test to Nancy Crabtree. The Unit Secretary (John) authorized the request, and Pat will notify Walter.



Changes for 2010

Pat

Pat requested an up-to-date list of clubs and teachers from the ACBL and notified them of changes for 2010.

Executive Session

The Board spent ten minutes in executive session.

Adjourn

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was seconded and approved at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted

John Erickson

Secretary

