



**Memorandum of Discussion**  
**ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 6th, 2021**  
**Zoom**

**Call to Order**

**Jack LaVigne**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

**Directors Present:** Joyce Gore, Nancy Guthrie, Lauri Laufman, Jack LaVigne, Greg May, Kathleen McDougall, Karen Nussbaum, and Sheryl Thomas.

**Absent:** Clif Rice

**Others Present:** Treasurer Gary Hercules, Paul Cuneo and Nancy Strohmmer.

**ACBL Up-Date**

**Paul Cuneo**

Paul said that due to the current state of the pandemic a decision on whether to hold the Nationals in St Louis has not yet been made.

Paul said, with respect to Strategic Committee, the first thing they needed to do was to decide what the rules were going to be for Virtual Clubs post pandemic. A survey of the District Board showed two thirds agreed the primary purpose of Virtual Clubs was to help face-to-face clubs post pandemic. Over 60% agreed it was important to protect face-to-face clubs from cannibalization by Virtual Clubs.

Paul stated there will always be online bridge through BBO so they will craft a set of rules, similar to the ones they have. For clubs to hold a Virtual Club online post pandemic, you have to be a face-to-face club owner. Also, there needs to be a limit on both how many Virtual Club sanctions a face-to-face club owner can get, as well as a limit on time of day it can be played.

ACBL is doing well financially. Membership has declined at a rate of 8 1/2 % since June and is down 5% last year.

Jack asked if there has been any input from management as to when face-to-face tournaments will begin. Paul said there had not.



**Approval of Minutes**

**Joyce Gore**

The December/2020 Minutes were prepared and emailed to the Board.

**Motion** that the December/2020 Minutes be approved was made by Jack LaVigne – Seconded by Sheryl Thomas. **Motion Carried**

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Gary Hercules**

Gary reported there was no December Financial report because he works them when he works the tax returns.

**Old Business**

**Publicity Chair**

**Dave Becker**

**Committee Reports**

**Club Connection**

**Kathleen McDougall**

**Charity**

**Nancy Strohmer**

**Education/I/N/New Member-Recruitment/Retention**

**Kathy McDougall/Clif Rice/Greg May**

Greg presented two (2) versions of the Unit 174 Future Life Masters of Houston postcard that had been prepared to be sent to the three groups (0-20, 21-50, and 51-99). He explained the front and back of each and the Board chose option 2. Greg said they need a website or a website within the unit website, as it is an ongoing thing. Jack said he would take care of this with the webmaster.

Jack commended Greg and his committee for all the work they had done and the fantastic results.

Jack asked how many players would be managing these groups and how they were going about contacting them. Greg said there would be one person to manage The Future Life Masters of Unit 174 itself, a volunteer, working with the committee to pick “Flight Commander” for each of the 3 different groups.

Kathy said the Buck Buchanan’s Teacher’s Certification class on the 17<sup>th</sup> filled so they are having an overflow class sometime in the future. The style will be BBO not Sharkbridge

Kathy said she put a blurb in the community flyer about the upcoming BIAD and wanted to know if there was a budget that would enable them to put ads in other community publications..Jack suggested Kathy propose a needed amount she thought necessary and the board could vote on it by email.

**Communication**

**Jeanne Phelps**

**STaC**

**Karen Nussbaum**

**GNT**

**Kathleen McDougall**



<b>NAP</b>	<b>Greg May</b>
<b>Intermediate/Newcomer</b>	<b>Nancy Guthrie</b>
<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Clif Rice</b>
<b>Technology</b>	<b>Greg May</b>
<b>Awards</b>	<b>Sheryl Thomas</b>

Sheryl reported Two (2) new Life Master this month; Bruce Weiner and Gerhard Ohlendorf. She said the plaques have been mailed.

**April Sectional** **Lauri Laufman/Greg May**

Lauri said the April Sectional had been approved and posted by ACBL and now needed to ask it be posted by the webmasters.

**Tournament Contracts/Future.** **Lauri Laufman**

Lauri said she had received a Contract from Moody Gardens in Galveston for the October 2023 Sectional Tournament. She had sent it to Jack and Paul for review.

A **MOTION** was made by Jack LaVigne that the President go forward with the October 2023 Galveston. Tournament contract was made by Jack LaVigne. Seconded by Greg May. Motion carried

**Procedure Manual** **Lauri Laufman**

**New Business**

**Board Election 2021**

Due to the candidate's inability of being able to go to the clubs to promote themselves, Jack suggested giving them the option of making a video or audio recording on the unit zoom. The webmasters would post it on the website along with the election flyer.

Jack asked Lauri if she would create a postcard to be sent to all unit members telling them of the election. Lauri agreed to do so.

Jack made a **Motion** that early voting start March 23 and end on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Nancy Guthrie Motion carried.

**By-Law** **Karen Nussbaum**

Karen informed the Board there was a proposed By-Law change of **Article V1, Section 4.**



**By-Law now reads:**

Every qualified member shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Director to be elected. All ballots shall be written and secret. A member may exercise one or more of the votes to which the member is entitled and unexercised votes shall not affect the validity of votes that have been exercised, but a member may not cast more the one vote for the same candidate. The Board of Directors shall appoint judges to conduct elections.

**Purposed Change:**

Every qualified Unit member shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each of the three (3) Director positions to be filled. All ballots shall be written and secret. A member may vote for one, two or three candidates, but may only vote once for the same candidate. Unexercised votes shall not affect the validity of votes that have been cast. The Board of Directors shall appoint conduct elections.

**Deletion of Article IX Section 2**

Karen informed the Board the Rules and Ethic Committee no longer exists and so recommended it be deleted.

**Club Manager Report**

**Lauri Laufman**

**District Update**

**Lauri Laufman**

District 16 has proposed By-Law changes. One of our members expressed concern about eliminating the bond requirement for the Executive Treasurer, the purposed change to Article 7 - Section 7.

After discussion it was agreed by all that Lauri would vote in favor of all the recommended By-Law changes.

**Adjournment**

**The February Board Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00pm.**

**Motion** to adjourn was made by Jack LaVigne - Seconded by Karen Nussbaum

**Motion carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Gore

Unit 174 Secretary

