



## Memorandum of Discussion

### ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

July 8, 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, David Henke, Daniel Jackson, Lauri Laufman, Jack LaVigne, Kathleen Malcolmson, Clif Rice and Sheryl Thomas. Also present: Treasurer-Gary Hercules.

#### Approval of Minutes

Lauri Laufman

The meeting minutes were prepared and emailed to the Board.

**Motion: That the June 2019 Minutes be approved.**

The motion was made by Jack LaVigne, seconded by Cindy Cox, and approved unanimously.

#### Treasurer's Report

Gary Hercules

The May 2019 Financial Statements were verified. The June 2019 Financial Statements were emailed. The June financial statements were not yet verified, due to time constraints.

**Motion: That the June 2019 Financial Statements be approved, dependent on verification.**

The motion was made by Daniel Jackson; seconded by David Henke; and approved unanimously.



## Old Business

### Nearly Summer Sectional

**Sheryl Thomas/Kathleen Malcolmson**

The Sectional's income is not final, waiting for a final invoice, but will be closely in line with projections of about \$800 profit. Total table count was 618, also in line with projections.

There was discussion about the suggestions made to improve future tournaments. One change will be that the concession will stay open one hour longer in the afternoon.

### August 2019 Sectional

**Daniel Jackson/Clif Rice**

All preparations are on track. Supplies will be delivered Tuesday; set-up will be Wednesday night. Speakers will remain in the same location as the Nearly Summer Sectional (north wall of Ballroom).

### November 2019 Sectional

**Jack LaVigne/Cindy Cox**

The I/N Chair is changed to Mary Ellen Vail. All Board members are asked to make sure that flyers are prominently displayed in clubs where they play. Flyers will be mailed to more outlying clubs than usual to promote this event.

### Lone Star Regional 2020

**Lauri Laufman/Jack LaVigne**

The flyer has had many updates since the last meeting. Included are scheduling changes.

- 1) The Director Refresher Class will take place from 10-4 on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- 2) The Aces & Knives documentary showing will be Saturday at 7 p.m. The total cost is \$1000, of which the ACBL Education Fund is contributing \$500, District 16 \$250 and Unit 174 \$250.
- 3) There is a Zip KO scheduled after the movie at 8:30 p.m.
- 4) Partnership Chair is Ken Hudson.

**Motion: That the LSR Flyer be approved as presented.**

The motion was made by Sheryl Thomas; seconded by Kathleen Malcolmson; and approved unanimously.

Stressing Membership Retention and I/N Members will be a priority for this Regional. Looking into I/N-focused lessons on Monday morning prior to the noon speaker that day. Perhaps one or two other I/N lessons later in the week, as well. I/N games will be promoted daily.

Budget will be presented at August BOD meeting, if not before.

The table count goal is 3000+. Ask neighboring units to promote this Regional heavily.



The morning Welcome greeting each day should remind players to pick up Awards at the Awards table if they have earned any.

**New Member Recruitment / Retention**

**All**

A plan for I/N Tournament Enrichment was emailed to the Board by Cindy Cox. A 2-phase approach was presented.

- 1) Introducing the “Newcomer Host” role to supplement the I/N desk and additional signage was successful at the Nearly Summer Sectional. This position will continue in August as the role is ‘fine-tuned’.
- 2) Presentations at NLM Games will be made by Cindy Cox about the benefits of attending tournaments. Flyers will be left for Newcomers about this topic.

The Bring-A-Buddy Program was proposed. For Tournament Regulars who bring along a First Timer, the Tournament Regular will also get a Free Play. This will encourage players to help ‘recruit’ new tournament players.

**Motion: To approve the Bring-A-Buddy Program which will include a Free Play for a tournament game to the member who brings a First Time Tournament Player.**

The motion was made by Clif Rice; seconded by David Henke; and approved unanimously.

An I/N Ambassador Program was suggested in order to guarantee a partner for 299er players. This suggestion will be adopted. A Free Play for a tournament game will be given to the Ambassador if they are not needed to play. Finding Ambassadors for every level of I/N play will begin.

**STaC**

No Report.

**Sheryl Thomas**

**GNT**

No Report.

**Daniel Jackson/Cindy Cox**

**NAP**

No Report.

**Daniel Jackson/Clif Rice**



## **Committee Reports**

### **Club Connection**

**Nancy Guthrie**

The next Club Connection proposed will be the Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club game held in Sugarland, Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Charity Report**

**Nancy Strohmer**

No report.

### **Education**

**Betty Starzec**

No report.

### **Membership**

**Catherine Miller**

No report.

### **Intermediate/Newcomer**

**Cindy Cox**

There were eight First Time Attendees at the Nearly Summer Sectional.

A concept draft of a Member Guest Bridge Social has been submitted to the Board for discussion, editing and approval. The purpose is to encourage non-duplicate players to become ACBL members and to enjoy participation at clubs and tournaments. Also, to provide a venue for members to bring non-bridge players to clubs in order to introduce them to the game. Further details are and points for discussion are laid out in the draft. Lauri Laufman will be the lead for this project.

### **Directory**

**David Henke**

No report.

## **Other**

### **Bridge in Schools**

**Kathleen Malcolmson**

Introduction to Duplicate Bridge was taught to six students at The Duchesne Academy daily from June 24 – 28. Both teacher and students enjoyed the class. The Unit has requested to continue an after-school program with Duchesne. They will get back to us after reading the reviews of the class.



## **Bridge as a Sport**

**Nancy Guthrie**

The proposal was made and is on the Unit website. The Unit is invited to return for future meetings. This is considered a big first step towards making bridge a part of high school curriculum.

## **Supplies**

**Clif Rice**

The Beaumont Regional has requested to borrow 100 bidding boxes and 10 sets of boards.

**Motion: To continue this arrangement with the Beaumont Regional in the future as needed.**

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

## **Awards**

**Sheryl Thomas**

Awards have been ordered for four members.

## **New Business**

### **District 16 Report**

**Kathleen Malcolmson**

The District 16 meeting took place at the San Antonio Regional July 6th.

District 16 has a new Recorder, Jack LaVigne. Lauri Laufman was appointed and approved as the I/N Coordinator, to replace Laura Delfeld. Ms. Delfeld resigned for personal reasons.

There is a vacancy on the Board of Governors. Requirements include attending at least one of the NABCs, preferably three. Please contact Rebecca Brown if you are interested.

Paul Cuneo submitted a report containing data and research on new and returning players to ACBL tournaments. That has been made available on the Unit 174 website. It is recommended reading by all who care about the future of duplicate bridge.

A vote was made and approved for the District to assist via subsidy Flt B and C 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams to the GNT when warranted.

\$250 was approved to help pay for the showing of Aces & Knives at the LSR in 2020.



Minutes of this meeting will be posted on the District 16 website.

**Procedure Manual**

**Lauri Laufman/Kathleen Malcolmson**

No report.

**Tournament Contracts/Future**

**Lauri Laufman/Jack LaVigne**

Awaiting contract negotiations with Shriners for the November 2020 Sectional.

**Executive Session**

The Board, with Gary Hercules, entered Executive Session at 11:23, exiting at 11:27.

**Adjournment**

**Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.**

The motion was made by Daniel Jackson, seconded by Kathleen Malcolmson; approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

**Next Board Meeting on August 5th, 9:30 a.m. at Tracy Gee Community Center.**

The September Board Meeting will be September 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. at Tracy Gee Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Malcolmson, Unit 174 Secretary

