



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

November 12, 2022

Karen Nussbaum's Home

Call to Order

Thomas Rush

The meeting was called to order at 9:28 AM by President Thomas Rush. Directors in attendance: Thomas Rush, Kathy McDougall, Charles Dalton, John DuBose, Byron Fackenthall, Clif Rice, Greg May, Karen Nussbaum and Sarah Springer. Also present as guests were Paul Cuneo, Nancy Strohmmer and Betty Starzac. Treasurer Steve Gordon was unable to attend.

Galveston Sectional Contract

Paul Cuneo

President Rush asked that Paul Cuneo be recognized on the Galveston issue prior to the remainder of the agenda as his time was limited. All approved of the adjustment to the agenda.

PC presented a synopsis of the current contractual obligations the Unit has with Moody Gardens in Galveston for the 2023 October Sectional. He concludes that holding the tournament could be less expensive for us than canceling the contract without concessions from the hotel. His plan is to meet with the hotel to explore options to reduce our commitments if the tournament is held or to reduce cancellation costs.

CR made a motion to accept PC's options; NS seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Executive Session

Kathy McDougal made a motion that the board move into executive session; the motion carried. KM further moved that BS, PC, and NS be invited to attend the session. Greg May objected. Discussion followed with review of bylaws provisions. The motion was approved by the majority of the Board. KM made a motion for PC to moderate the executive session. GM objected. Discussion followed. The majority of the Board approved the motion. The Executive session was conducted.



Resumption of Regular Meeting

The resignation of Thomas Rush as president was accepted by the Board. KM resumed the meeting as Acting President. SS nominated KM as President. GM nominated SS as President. Discussion was had about the bylaws. SS declined the nomination. BF moved for nominations to be closed. KM was elected President.

BS moved for Karen Nussbaum to be VP. TR nominated BF as VP. The majority of the Board voted to have KN as VP.

Action item: Signature cards at the bank need to be updated.

Approval of Minutes

Sarah Springer

CR made a motion to approve the October minutes. BF seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Gordon

No report as the Treasurer was not in attendance.

CR pointed out that Herb Kalman, our verifier, needs to send the verification report not just to the Treasurer but also the President.

Old Business

Technology

Greg May

Greg May reported that the Zoom account was renewed on November 1st and a reduced cost and thanked Steve Gordon for his help. GM also pointed out that our Box account is expensive and has a lot more tools than we actually need. Google Docs was discussed as an alternative. GM expressed concern about the transfer of all the files from one platform to another.

Procedure Manual

Karen Nussbaum

The most up-to-date version of the manual is version 31. Most board members have been working with version 29. The up-to-date manual is available in Box.

District Update

Betty Stazac

No report

Club Connection

John Dubose

John DuBose will work on the next Club Connection game at Cypress, probably in January.



It was mentioned that the Board should attend the holiday parties as the various clubs. The clubs do get subsidies for the holiday parties.

Club Manager Report

Greg May

No report

Tournament Contracts/ Future Sites

Thomas Rush

No report

Committee Reports

Charity Report

Nancy Strohmer

NS noted that March 2023 is Charity month and there will be Unit as well as District Charity games. There will be lots of charity and lots of points in March.

I/N /Future Life Masters

Kathy McDougall/ Greg May

KM stated that the volunteers are working very hard with the I/N FLM. BCOH will be hosting an I/N game.

Education

Kathy McDougall

No report

New Member Recruitment

Charles Dalton

BS inquired as to whether procedures were being followed with respect to new members. CD stated he had been reaching out to new members.

BF reported that voting was being held at community centers at the same time as club games, and he promoted bridge to the people in line to vote who indicated interest and wanted more information about bridge.

Unit Newsletter

Jeanne Phelps has resigned as Newsletter Editor and Evvie Gilbert will be taking over. Evvie will need an assistant. Carol Winogard is resigning as Webmaster, but Allison Ochsner is taking over. KM will call Carol and Jeanne to thank them for their hard work.

Publicity

No report

Supplies

Clif Rice

CR will do the inventory of our supplies with SG at the end of the year. The inventory



will verify the status and location of supplies and verify the paper needed to supply the upcoming year. \$2000 of supplies need to be ordered before February.

STAC (U174)

Karen Naussbaum

KN reported that there were some issues with corrupted files in connection with the Stac games. Note: Probably best not to send Stac and Royal Stac boards at the same time.

GNT and NAP

Karen Naussbaum

NAP finals will be in Austin. GNT finals will be split between Dallas and Houston and the Houston GNT finals will be at the April Sectional.

Awards

Karen Nussbaum

KN reported three new Life Masters and she is working on getting them their plaques.

BS pointed out the December 31 is the deadline for nominations for the District Star and two Goodwill appointees. The District Star award is to recognize work for the Unit over multiple years going above and beyond. Descriptions of the awards are on the District's website.

October Sectional

Clif Rice/Sarah Springer

CR went over the projected budget and actual profit and loss. We had a loss of \$1852. He noted that the caddies want a raise to \$12/hour from \$10/hour. The possibility of having the Ladies of the Nile handle coffee sales at the next sectional was discussed.

It was the consensus of the Board that the Halloween Sectional went very well.

Investment of Unit Funds

Thomas Rush

TR discussed various investments with staggered maturity dates. NS moved that the plan be approved and executed. All were in favor.

Houston Regional

Kathy McDougall/Karen Nussbaum

KM has completed the flyer and distributed it for publication. Copies will be produced for distribution to the area clubs. Flyers will be taken to the national tournament in Phoenix. Food for the Regional was discussed, including the Sunday lunch, District Breakfast, Hotdog night, the FLM party, and snacks. The District will provide three cakes for the Hotdog night. Also discussed was the volunteer lunch; it was noted that it is less expensive to bring food in than to have the hotel provide it.

The budget was discussed. An addition of \$200 is needed for Fast Results. The District has one dealing machine; we may need to rent a second machine.



Hand records for the team games was discussed with the consensus being that it might be better to try it out at a Sectional tournament rather than at the Regional. TR will look into more information about how to successfully incorporate hand records for team games.

KN confirmed that there will be different seating provided by the hotel. Chairs have been the topic of ongoing complaints for many years.

I/N Hospitality chairs need to be included on the flyer. The I/N Chair should be provided a hotel room at the expense of the Unit. KM will have the hotel's President's Suite; KN will not use her suite so that accommodation can be used by one of the chairs. Ken Hudson will be partnership chair. Janice Hardcastle will be Hospitality Chair. A separate chair is needed for Awards, possibly Jane Armstrong.

KM stated that thirty middle school students will be playing at the Regional on Friday morning. Some of the students are not vaccinated for Covid. The plan is for them to have a sanctioned game in a separate area, a "land cruise" tournament. We need a club Director—Susan Banks Johnson was suggested. KM will ensure there is a reservation for either the Richmond Room or the Rose Room for the students' game. This expense needs to be captured in the proposed budget.

It is likely that the ACBL may change Covid protocols after the Phoenix tournament.

TR made a motion to approve the proposed budget subject to future revisions. Some board members had not had the opportunity to review the budget, so it was agreed that the Board would vote to approve the proposed budget via email.

BS noted that NS will be sending out a notice on Robly concerning the Teacher course. There is a minimum of ten students required for this course to be held. KN noted that the Directors' course is available on line for \$50 which is the same price we will be charging for the in-person course. The teacher Tom Marsh will be paid \$900 and comped two nights in the hotel.

The entry fees will be \$15.00 Monday through Friday and \$16 Saturday and Sunday.

Nominations Committee

Three candidates have accepted nominations to run for the Board next year. KN will run for another term. Other candidates may accept their nominations in the near future.

Board Meetings

Thomas Rush

2023 Board Meeting Dates are as follows, at Tracy Gee Community Center, 9:15 AM:

January 9
February 9
March 6



April 3
May 1
June 5
July 10
August 7
September 11
October 2
November 6
December 4
January 8, 2024 (proposed).

Next Board Meeting

Kathy McDougall

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be at Tracy Gee's Community Center on December 5, 2022 at 9:15 AM.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Springer, Unit 174 Secretary

