



## Memorandum of Discussion

### ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

September 11, 2023

Tracy Gee Community Center

#### Call to Order

Karen Nussbaum

President Karen Nussbaum brought the meeting to order at 9:23 am; board members present at the meeting were Thomas Rush, Charles Dalton, John DuBose, Antoun Henri, Dave Becker, Sarah Springer, John Eric Watson, Steve Gordon, and Paddy Fiorino. Dave Becker was present via Zoom. Also present were Nancy Strohmer (Charity Chair) and Janice Hardcastle. Joyce Gore arrived later in the meeting to address the board. Nile Gross was absent from the meeting.

#### Board Changes

Karen Nussbaum

John Eric Watson was presented to the board as the board-approved replacement for Siraj Jiwani who resigned his seat on the board.

#### Approval of minutes

Paddy Fiorino

PF presented minutes from the August 7 meeting which had been previously circulated via email to the board. SS moved that the minutes be approved; TR seconded the motion and **minutes for the August 7 meeting were APPROVED.**

#### Charity Report

Nancy Strohmer

Nancy Strohmer requested a motion to accept the unit 2024 charity game dates as follows. Proceeds from the Monday March 18 and Thursday March 21 games will go to the ACBL Charity Foundation. Proceeds from games Wednesday March 20



and Friday March 22 will go to the selected Unit 174 charity for 2024 (specific charity to be decided.) SS made this motion, which was seconded by TR. The motion was passed as proposed. SG reported he is holding approximately \$1300 in funds from the recent charity games to be distributed to the Houston Food Bank at the 2024 LSR.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Steve Gordon**

SG reported unit funds of approximately \$141,000 in cash. He reported a profit of \$6000 from the August sectional with a 400 table count. SG discussed the recent check register sent via email to board members. TR suggested the board consider resuming lunch at upcoming sectionals if the sectionals are now showing a profit. KN stated this is being considered including planning for the LSR.

### **Club Manager Report**

**Greg May, Karen Nussbaum**

KN presented a summary from Greg May. He reported 5 tables at the 0-50 unit game on 9/5/23. As of September 11, the following table counts are noted: 2023-137; 2022-207; 2021-171.

### **Facebook**

**Sarah Springer**

SS has set up a unit Facebook page. KN stated she is now a joint administrator. SS stated the page is set up to be public and open and members can post.

### **Technology**

**Thomas Rush**

JW has not yet been successfully added to the board group email. TR will re-send the link so that JW can accept the group. SG will get JW set up with a Box account. SG recommended that JW consider setting up a separate g-mail account for board business. KN stated she is meeting with Marriott staff this week and the microphone system will be discussed.

### **Procedure Manual and Bylaws**

**Sarah Springer**

SS reminded board members that she is making ongoing changes to the manual and that the approved changed amendments are in Box.

### **Club Connection**

**Sarah Springer**

SS stated that the BCOH club connection game went well. SS stated that the Clear Lake and Conroe club connection game are still being planned, but dates have not yet been set and SS will follow-up with these clubs.



**August Sectional Recap****Sarah Springer**

SS noted a profit was made. She received some complaints. One group of complaints concerned the I/N regional limiting the number of pair teams in the open game. She also received a complaint about Covid reporting after the tournament.

**Moody Gardens Sectional October****Karen Nussbaum**

SS requested the board consider hiring a company to produce the tournament flyers as it requires a specific skill set and has been very time consuming to board members. KN stated she is looking for a graphic artist. DB may have someone to refer to KN. JW stated he may have some experience in this area and will discuss with KN. Rick has made a commitment to do make boards, caddy, and set-up for the sectional. Board will get an hotel room for him. Bridgepads/bridgemates need to be obtained. JD will check the contents of the storage unit. DB will check availability from the CL club. Supply delivery is scheduled for Wednesday with set-up on Thursday. DB will check if tables are available from Moody Gardens. KN announced that a \$10 subsidized box lunch will be available by pre-order for Friday and Saturday. KN will set up 3-4 lunch options with Moody Gardens. TR suggested a link to pre-order on the unit website. KN will work with Allison to get this on the web page once the options are decided. A Friday evening dinner is planned with a comedian for a \$30 ticket cost. DB will finalize the menu with Moody Gardens with an anticipated 150 person attendance. A luau is planned for the Saturday dinner; planning is in progress. Sunday buffet lunch is planned. Bus transportation to Galveston was discussed, but there has not been sufficient interest in this in the past. It was noted that the Galveston tournament is both an open sectional and a I/N regional tournament.

**Future Life Master****Karen Nussbaum**

KN will order more of the bridge convention tip sheets for the Galveston sectional and LSR. I/N packets will also be reordered.

**Call List for lapsed members****Karen Nussbaum**

KN reported the deadline for the credit voucher has now been extended to 10/31/23.

**GNT/NAP****Karen Nussbaum**

GNT and NAP will occur during the April sectional.

### **Lone Star Regional**

**Karen Nussbaum**

The district has approved \$2500 for the Best Practices class for teacher training. The Best Practices Teacher class has a \$50.00 charge and is planned for Saturday and Sunday am before the LSR. There is an 8 person minimum for the class. KN noted that the mid-flight pairs 1500-3000 was omitted on the flyer and will be added. Evening online games must be on the same night when an evening face to face game is scheduled. KN will follow-up further with the ACBL. The unit webpage now has a working link for LSR hotel reservations. A raffle for the LSR was discussed, but deferred at this time. KN discussed speakers for the LSR, she is still working on this. The revised Event Naming list was discussed by the board and several edits were recommended. JW made a motion to approve the list with revisions as discussed. This was seconded by CD and approved by the board.

### **Guest Speaker**

**Joyce Gore**

Joyce wanted to address the board verbalizing that she is upset that the recent death of Marcella Thomas was not recognized on the unit website. KN reported after Joyce's statement that she has discussed with Joyce that the unit requires a family member report/obituary because of privacy issues. The board discussed this further after Joyce's statement. KN will ask Joyce if she can prepare a statement in conjunction with the family that can be added to the webpage.

### **Parliamentarian**

**Karen Nussbaum**

CD has volunteered to act as parliamentarian for the board. TR made a motion to approve which was seconded by SS. Motion passed.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn** made by SS. CD seconded. All were in favor.

***Motion carried***

***The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Paddy Fiorino, Unit 174 Board Secretary*

