

ACBL District 22
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
December 16, 2021
Westin Mission Hills Resort, Palm Springs, CA

Members Present:

Area 1: Deb Cameron & Tish Gainey (Secretary)
Area 2: Linda Decquir & Barbara Maniscalco (Vice President)
Area 3: Lamya Agelidis (President) & Bill Grant
Area 4: Ron Lien & Richard Picheny (Treasurer)
ACBL District Director: David Lodge

Guests Present: Georgia Heth, President, American Contract Bridge League; Joann Glasson, President-elect; Joe Jones, Executive Director; Margot Hennings, Member, ACBL National Board, Region 4; David Sizemore, D22 Representative, ACBL Advisory Council; McKenzie Myers, National Tournament Director

I. Call to Order

President Agelidis called the special meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

II. Tournament Report

Director in Charge, McKenzie Myers, reported that midway through the tournament everything was going well. Although attendance was down in relation to pre-pandemic tournaments, there was a good turnout and players were enjoying themselves and cooperating with the mask mandate. (Myers left the meeting after giving his report)

III. Minutes

The minutes of the August 24, 2021 and October 24, 2021 board meetings were approved.

IV. President's Report

Agelidis gave an overview of the year that she described as challenging but which allowed the district to see what could be done to support its membership. Accomplishments included a revamped website, a new newsletter that is better and less expensive to produce, revised Bylaws and the first regional tournament in over a year.

V. Treasurer's Report

Picheny reviewed the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet. There was a \$14,000.00 year-end loss.

VI. Election Report

As secretary, Gainey reported on the board elections for Areas 1 and 4 and the election to adopt the newly revised bylaws.

In Area 1, Deb Cameron did not seek another term. Calls for nominees went out to all units in Area 1. The name of Frank Swanson was put in nomination. No other nominees were received by the deadline, resulting in Frank Swanson being appointed in lieu of an election. In Area 4, Richard Picheny agreed to serve another term. A call for nominations went out to all units in Area 4. No other nominations were put forth. Richard Picheny is thereby appointed in lieu of an election. Both Swanson and Picheny will serve three-year terms. The revised Bylaws were approved by the board on August 24, 2021 and were sent to the Unit presidents by Agelidis shortly thereafter. To become effective, the Bylaws needed to be approved by Units representing 2/3 of the total membership of District 22. Two-thirds of the membership as of the end of July 2021 was 3,756 members. As of December 16, 2021, votes in favor of approving the revised Bylaws had been received from Units representing 5,256 members, well over the 2/3 threshold. The 2021 District 22 Bylaws have been adopted.

VII. National Report

Lodge reported on the national board meeting in Austin. Highlights included a discussion of reviewing the circumstances when sectionals or regionals lose money should ACBL be unable to staff an approved event; trying to rectify the lack of specificity in the codification; cleaning up rules and regulations; adding staff to the Recorder's office to better address cheating issues; and passage of the 2022 budget, projecting a loss of \$800,000 due primarily to increased IT investment.

VIII. GNT/NAP

Lien gave a brief overview of the year's activities and reported that the NAP will take place in-person on Sunday at the Palm Springs Regional.

IX. Western Conference

Lien reported that Districts 22 and 21 are the only districts left in the Conference. D21 will be meeting in the near future to vote on whether to remain.

X. Advisory Council

Lien reported on the activities of the Advisory Council, previously called the Board of Governors. The Council's Anti-Cheating Committee interviewed a number of people to get an idea of online cheating from different perspectives. A report was submitted to the Advisory Council and to the Board of Directors. The report included ten recommendations. Since October the same group has been looking at face-to-face cheating and again interviewing people to get different dimensions. Lien also reported on the outcome of five virtual town halls conducted by Advisory Council Chair Doug Couchman in mid summer with club managers and presidents.

XI. All-Western 99er Nite Club

Agelidis gave an update on the program since its inception in October 2020.

XII. Website

Agelidis reported on the statistics of visitors to the website which showed spikes in November and December prior to the Palm Springs Regional.

XIII. Dynamo Program

Agelidis explained the program for the visitors. Maniscalco suggested that if the program continues that more unit and club presidents be involved in the selection process. Motion made by Lien, seconded by Maniscalco to continue the program for another year at up to \$300 per quarter. Motion passed unanimously.

XIV. National Charity Committee

Lodge nominated Bob Wernick to the ACBL National Charity Committee. Bob was selected for his immeasurable contributions to the fundraising effort and construction of the Duncan Bridge Center as a dedicated bridge center for the Coachella Valley.

XV. National Goodwill Committee

Lodge nominated Barbara and Jim Maniscalco to the ACBL National Goodwill Committee, citing their gracious spirit and years of service to Unit 533 and District 22.

XVI. Bylaws Committee

Gainey reported the newly revised Bylaws are in effect. Due to changes at the national level and its reconstructed board, the Bylaws call for a District Advisory Council Representative to serve on the District 22 Board. David Sizemore will now serve in that position as a voting member.

XVII. Future Regionals

Agelidis reviewed the status of contracted regionals from 2020-2026. For 2022, the district has contracted three regionals: San Diego in April, Ventura in October and Palm Springs in December. Agelidis would like to find another tournament venue in Orange County or Riverside. She encouraged members to look in their areas for possible venues.

XVIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Tish Gainey
Secretary