



American Contract
Bridge League

District 22

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

Location: Riverside Convention Center, Riverside, California, Executive Board Room

Date & Time: Friday February 2, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Members Present: Diane Gunther & Jim Parks (Area I), Debra Cameron & Nancy Erickson (Area II), Bill Grant & Andrew Loh (Area III), John Kissinger & Ron Lien (Area IV), David Lodge (ACBL District Rep.)

Members Absent: None

Guests: Arleen Harvey (Director in Charge), Bonnie Bagley, Ken Monzingo, Maritha Pottenger, and Richard Picheny

I. Call to Order

President Lien called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm

II. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meetings held in Rancho Mirage in December 2017 were reviewed, corrected, and unanimously approved. Nancy suggested that minutes be sent to and reviewed by members for possible corrections within two weeks of receiving the minutes from the secretary. Corrected minutes would then be emailed to the members. The corrected minutes would be placed on the agenda for approval.

III. President's Remarks and Question Period

Ron asked for a moment of silence in the recognition of the passing of Lamya's father. Ron noted that he had appointed three special committees and that all three had met and some recommendations would be made later in the meeting. He noted that any By-law change would need to be submitted to the member Units for adoption. He has appointed Lynn Feldman as Discipline Chair, Lamya Angelidis as Tournament Supervisor, and Andy Loh as Recorder. Ron also stated that he had appointed himself as the ACBL Board of Governors representative.

IV. Guest Remarks

Arleen Harvey noted that there was a time inconsistency on the Monday Swiss evening session start time. She also reported that through Friday afternoon the attendance at Riverside was down slightly. She estimated that the final attendance would be down 100 tables from last year. There was a question on night games and Nancy indicated that Palm Springs is considering adding a Gold Rush game at night since NLMs were more likely to play three sessions in a day to gain gold points. Arleen was asked if the different fees created any problems and she said that it did cause confusion. Ken gave a report on the San Diego NABC tournament expenses including registration gifts and hotel costs. Bill reported that the amount remaining in our current CD allocated to NABCs is about \$6,000 after the current ACBL charges were assessed.

V. Treasurer's Report

David presented the 2017 Balance Sheet and an Annual Comparison of Results for the regional tournaments. David commented on the money in the NABC fund that was raised by the district to support the financial needs of a NABC held in the district. It is the district's financial responsibility for the NABC so it is incumbent upon the district to have control including a representative on the finance committee that understands the budget and that the tournament director not have carte blanche.



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The tournament chairperson should understand that they are working for the district. David noted that we have no insurance coverage, other than national E&O, including equipment loss. Ron recommended that a Financial Oversight Committee be formed. Ron and David volunteered to be on the committee.

VI. Secretary's Report

No report.

VII. New Business

1. New treasurer – Ron introduced Richard Picheny as a nominee for the treasurer position. Richard provided his background which included significant accounting experience and treasurer and president experience on several boards. John motioned and Andy seconded that Richard be elected to the treasurer position and that he receive the same compensation as current board members. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Hotel reward benefits – An individual will be appointed to receive hotel benefits, which are to be used to pay for costs associated with District 22 hotel expenses.
3. Western Conference and Forum – Ron presented the costs of going digital with a savings of an estimated \$43,000 per year. There was discussion that two more paper issues, March and April, will be printed. There was extended discussion on costs associated with the Western Conference. Ken stated that his editor fee would be increasing from \$250 to \$375 per month for work done after the April issue of the Forum. Nancy motioned, Ron amended, and John seconded that “District 22 affirms Marion Robertson’s email of December 14th in detail as long as the district is obligated to pay.” The motion was unanimously approved. Ron presented some of the obstacles to be faced during the digital transition including valid email addresses. David presented an extended discussion on the background of the STACs as related to the Western Conference and the issues that will need to be resolved at local, regional, and national levels.
4. Ron motioned that we approve Ken Monzingo’s rate card. Tournament managers would determine what services they wanted and would communicate with Ken in an appropriate time frame. Nancy seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
5. John suggested a variation of formats in team tournament play to eliminate single session Swiss Games. Ron suggested that John and Jim work on these ideas.

VIII. New Committee Reports

1. Tournament Committee - David motioned and Andy seconded that all card fees for regionals, except NLMs, be increased to \$14 effective as of the Orange County Regional. The motion was unanimously approved. There was a discussion about hotel cancellation fees, which currently will be left to the tournament manager to determine until the board can adopt a policy. Ron motioned that a second co-chair be added to the Palm Springs Regional for \$600 plus free plays. A room may be allocated by the tournament manager if they determine one is needed. The motion was seconded by Nancy and unanimously approved.
2. By-laws Committee – Nancy reported that the committee met and has proposed some changes for



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the board's consideration and approval. Nancy motioned that the section of the By-laws titled "Officers of Board of Directors" be numbered Article V and included on the ballot to amend the By-law changes. The motion was seconded John and unanimously approved. Nancy motioned that Article VII have "Roles &" be added to the title and that Sections F & G be included on the ballot to amend the By-laws They read: Section F "To approve any lodging, meals, or free plays for any non-tournament staff and volunteers" and Section G "To support and play in District sponsored Regionals." The motion was seconded by John and unanimously approved. The responsibilities in these proposed sections become policy until the adoption of the By-law amendments by the member Units.

3. Online Committee - Andy reported that the committee met and that there will be a link to the Forum site. There was discussion on links to both local, regional, and national web sites and the need to coordinate them, which will be looked at by the committee.

IX. Hotel Contracts

1. Ron stated that the goal this year is to have contracts for all five regionals signed through 2020. Palm Springs and Ventura are already signed with Palms Springs signed through 2022.

X. Committee Reports

1. Web Site - See Online Committee comments.
2. Goodwill - No report.
3. Tournament - Nancy noted that the Palm Springs Regional Committee recommended removing the Passing of the Gavel and the Goodwill Awards ceremony from the regional. They will recommend That the awards be presented at local levels by area representatives. Andy suggested that having the ACBL president and the president elect sit in in a Q & A was good.
4. GNT/NAP - John encouraged members to enter and promote the GNT in April. He will send out flyers encouraging teams to participate in the GNT.
5. Western Conference - See comments above.
6. Membership - No report.
7. Education Liaison - No report.
8. New Players Affairs - Maritha discussed new player's response to morning training session and methods of recruiting new players. She indicated a high interest in games with gold points associated like Gold Rush pairs. John indicated that he liked the Gold Rush Swiss when he was a NLM. Ron commented about new software available from the ACBL for marketing solutions that is powered by Pianola.
9. Charity - No report.
10. Discipline - Ron recommended that if the discipline chair brings a disciplinary action to a board meeting that they be compensated as a board member is.
11. Appeals - Vacant.
12. Recorder - Andy indicated that there were three cases currently being reviewed.
13. Tournament Director - There was discussion on coordination between District 22 and District 23 on handling scheduling and whether there would be one person to handle the coordination.



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Debra indicated that she would work with District 23. Debra noted that Betty Bratcher has worked very hard on scheduling and that the board should recognize her efforts. Ron stated that in view of her experience in running and assisting in tournaments Lamya Angelidis be named Tournament Supervisor to act as a resource for tournament chairs.

14. David reported on the national meeting of the ACBL Board of Directors including discussion on seeding by strength of field, increasing percentage of gold points in NLM regionals, and adding another bracket in the GNTs and the NAPs. David responded to Andy's question about the ACBL having a membership committee with a yes answer and a comment that the CEO wants to increase the membership by 15,000 members by the end of the year.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25. **The next meeting of the Board is to be held in San Diego on Thursday, March 29th at Bully's restaurant. Time TBD.**