

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
Meeting December 9, 2005

ATTENDANCE:

Present: S. Schuchert, M. P. Carns, I. Port, D. Averbach, R. Franck, W. Holt, W. Kelsey, M. McNeirney, M. Painter, A. Port, A. Ulke

Absent: L. Joseph, C. Benedict, F. Feldman, J. Gillette, M.J. Johnson, D. Mannheimer, V. Simak,

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Sandy Schuchert

PRESIDENTS REMARKS

Introduction of new board members

Sandy Schuchert welcomed new board members Asim Ulke and Mary Paulone Carns. New board members Charlene Benedict and Mary Jo Johnson were unable to attend. Sandy thanked outgoing board members Judy Haffner, Harold Haffner, and Dave Trimble. She will discuss with John Gillette whether he intends to remain on the board.

Arrangements with Blackridge Civic Association

Sandy reported that she heard from Bill Miller on behalf of Blackridge Civic Association. They intend to raise our rent to \$75 per game, plus \$48 set-up fee (the latter to be split among all games held between Thursday morning and Sunday evening; currently 3 games). Additionally they intend to change the format of the charges; currently the PBA rents the building for the whole day on Friday for \$100 plus setup fee of \$15; the PBA recoups \$75 from the Milt Frazier DBC (Gus Costanzo, director)--game is Friday morning at 10:30. Therefore our net rental for the Friday night unit game is going to increase from \$40 (\$115 less \$75) to \$91 (\$75 plus 1/3 of the \$48 setup fee). Additionally, we potentially could lose control of the building for Friday morning/afternoon, eliminating the possibility of holding a 2-session event on occasion. After considerable discussion, the board agreed to the following:

1. Sandy will meet with Bill Miller and try to negotiate better financial terms as well as discuss the unsatisfactory features of the current building such as non-functioning plumbing in the restrooms, lack of paper products in the restrooms, poor outdoor lighting and poor condition of the parking lot. Arlene Port will accompany Sandy to the meeting
2. Attempt to retain control of the building for the entire day on Friday with the Milt Frazier DBC paying rental to the PBA
3. If the Milt Frazier DBC continues to rent from the PBA, we will split rental/setup expenses evenly with them; this will almost certainly result in a net increase in the PBA's expenses

Food/hostess issues at Unit Game

Sandy reported that Valerie Michael, the hostess for the Friday evening Unit Game, plans to resign. The board discussed: relatively high expenses in view of declining attendance, what types of food should be served, and various ways to accomplish this. The following plan was developed, and will be tried, except for parties:

1. Sandy will accept Valerie's resignation, effective end December 2005
2. If the directors agree, their salary will be increased from \$60 to \$70, and the director will be responsible for making coffee, setting up the food service, and cleanup after the game
3. The food service will be limited to coffee, tea, cookies, and soda. Ron Franck will continue to provide the food and food-related supplies, which he will leave at the site on Friday afternoon
4. Board members who attend the Unit Game will try to help with cleanup

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

A partial set of minutes was distributed from the planning meeting held Nov. 14, 2005. The minutes were not completed by outgoing secretary Dee Braddock before her recent hospitalization. Incoming secretary Mary Paulone Carns volunteered to complete the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from Darlene Mannheimer asking why her name was omitted from an article, published in the Post Mortem, concerning her beginning bridge students. Arlene Port reported that the Post Mortem doesn't publish any information that might be construed to be advertising for a particular game or teacher. Games or teachers may submit items as paid ads, if they desire.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 11/30/05, we have \$8611 in the checking account, and total assets of \$72595. The Friday night game lost approximately \$1500 in 2005, nearly all because of decreased income (lower attendance). The report was distributed at the meeting. Ivan will ask Phil Miller to do the audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Friendship/Condolence—Maryanne McNeirney sent 2 condolences and 2 Get-well cards

Post Mortem—See discussion above under Correspondence

Education—Arlene Port reported that new lessons will be starting in February. The possibility of having ongoing lessons, rather than episodic lessons, is being explored. Bill Holt will put information on the website if it is given to him

Novice—Darlene Mannheimer was not present so no report was given

Membership—Vince Simak was not present so no report was given

OLD BUSINESS

Thursday Evening STAC—Sandy Schuchert reported that there were 13.5 tables, a large increase over 2004

Sunday Swiss Teams STAC—Sandy reported that there were 16 teams compared with 18 teams in 2004. There were some complaints about the caterer but the consensus was to give them another chance

Calendar 2006—The calendar was published as discussed at the planning meeting. Mary asked the board if there should be a 299er pairs every Friday (if attendance warrants), even if there is a special game. The board decided YES, except for the Pro-Am game. The board meeting will be the second Friday of even-numbered months, unless there is a conflict with a holiday or other special event (i.e., Greensburg Sectional)

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Party, December 16, 2005—Sandy reported that Bunny Miller is in charge; a specific budget hasn't been set.

Spring Sectional—Sandy reported that Vince Simak is the Chairperson; the sectional is at the McKeesport Palisades March 3-5, 2005. Marilyn Painter pointed out that the ACBL Bulletin doesn't indicate that this is the Pittsburgh Sectional. Mary Paulone Carns will talk with Butch Campbell at the ACBL to try to change this for future issues and for future sectionals

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be on Feb. 10, 2005 at 6:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.