

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
Meeting February 10, 2006

ATTENDANCE:

Present: S. Schuchert, M. P. Carns, I. Port, J. Gillette, W. Holt, L. Joseph, M. McNeirney, M. Painter, A. Port, D. Mannheimer, V. Simak, A. Ulke

Absent: D. Averbach, C. Benedict, F. Feldman, R. Franck, M.J. Johnson, W. Kelsey, D. Trimble

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by President Sandy Schuchert

PRESIDENTS REMARKS

Deferred

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes from the planning meeting of Nov. 14, 2005 and the last regular meeting Dec. 9, 2005 were previously e-mailed to the members. The minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

The unit winners of the Mini-McKinney and Ace of Club Awards were sent from the ACBL and are posted on the unit website. The winners will be honored at Awards Night in May. Mary Paulone Carns will order medallions from the ACBL.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 12/31/05, we have \$7725 in the checking account, and total assets of \$64270. An accounting of Income and Expenses and Expenses was distributed at the meeting, with a comparison between 2005 and 2004. In 2004 the unit had a net income of \$3800, compared with a net loss of \$830 in 2005. The main contributors to this difference are: no Spring Sectional in 2005 (due to the NABC), no educational program in 2005, and a greater loss by the unit game.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Friendship/Condolence**—Maryanne McNeirney sent 3 condolences and 2 Get-well cards

**Post Mortem**—Arlene thanked Marilyn Painter for supplying reports of her bridge travels. Several members of the board agreed that the recent items concerning the history of the PBA have been well received.

**Education**—Lou Joseph reported that classes start Feb. 27. So far only 1 person signed up for novice lessons, so it is uncertain whether this class will be held. However, the regular class is anticipated to have approximately 40

students. Lou will phone the Post-Gazette and place an ad in the paper concerning the novice lessons.

Bill Holt asked members to submit names of known bridge teachers, and he will contact them for permission to list their classes on the website.

**Novice**—Darlene Mannheimer reported that the novice program in the South Hills is doing well.

**Membership**—Vince Simak has not received the recent membership reports because her computer is down. She reported that she needs new stationery for the letters she sends to each new member. Bill Holt will develop and obtain the stationery, and offered to send the letters if Vince gives him the names.

**Webmaster**—Bill Holt provided usage statistics for the Unit website. There are approximately 200 hits/day and 7000/month, mostly for results of club games. Bill was commended for doing an excellent job.

## OLD BUSINESS

**December Holiday Party**—Was a success; Sandy thanked Bunny Miller for doing a good job.

**January Swiss Team Game**—There were only 7 tables this year compared with 12 tables in 2005. It would probably help if this game were advertised.

**Equipment Manager**—Sandy announced that she has appointed Asim Ulke to this position, which consists mainly of taking care of the food for the Unit Game and helping with the sectionals. Asim has been serving unofficially in this role since the beginning of the year.

**New Club House Site**—Vince Simak reported that she has located a potential site for a club house. The site has adequate room for bridge games, a kitchen, and meeting rooms. Parking, restrooms, and handicapped access are good. There is an apartment in the basement. The site is in North Versailles, just off route 30. The consensus is that it is a great idea to attempt to obtain a club house but it is unlikely that it would be successful when located relatively far from central Pittsburgh. The board did not recommend submitting this site to the Building Committee.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Spring Sectional**—Is scheduled at the Palisades in McKeesport March 3-5. Vince reported that she has a great committee; there are plans for section top prizes, refreshments after each session Friday and Saturday; breakfast and lunch will be included in the price of the Sunday team game at a cost of \$5 per person. There will be a restaurant guide. To address the concerns of some people regarding safety in the area, there will be a police presence as people are entering and exiting the playing site. Bill Holt has posted directions on the

website, and copies will be available at club games. There will be directional signage in McKeesport. The planned ad in the 5<sup>th</sup> Column didn't appear due to an oversight by their editor: there will be an addendum on the District Website. Also, the advertising on the ACBL Website now reflects "Pittsburgh" in addition to "McKeesport" but this change didn't appear in the printed bulletin. Mary spoke to the ACBL again and they will correct this problem before the Summer and Fall Sectionals.

**Novice Swiss Team Game**—Bill Holt presented a plan for a Swiss Team game for Novices. The consensus was that this is a good idea. The event will be held sometime in April, on a weekend. Bill and Darlene will be co-chairs, and Arlene will be in charge of recruiting non-playing captains. Sign-up will be via local novice programs. Mary will obtain a sanction once plans are complete.

**Awards Party**—Will be held May 19; chairs are Mary Jo Johnson and Charlene Benedict. Maryanne McNeirney's committee will meet to select winners of the Milt Frazier and Jane McIntyre Awards. Mary Paulone Carns will obtain the data for the Fred Sorenson Award. Lou Joseph will make certificates.

**Sunday StaC Swiss Team**—Scheduled for June 18.

**Summer Sectional--June 30-July 2**—Vince Simak is the Chairperson. Bill Holt and Mary Paulone Carns mentioned that it is past time to start making plans for the Summer Sectional. The ACBL expects plans to be substantially complete 1 year before a Sectional!

**District 5 Education Fund**—Arlene reported that District 5 has \$20,000 available for Education. Each Unit will appoint an Education Coordinator who will receive a stipend. Also, there will be a program to reward bridge teachers who have students who join the ACBL. Arlene will be in charge of identifying possible candidates for the position of Unit Education Coordinator. Additionally, there will be a TAP class and EZ bridge classes at the Labor Day Regional. District 5 will subsidize the tuition for members of the District.

**Dave Trimble**—is officially a member of the board but hasn't attended a meeting since April. Sandy requested that Mary send a letter to Dave informing him that he has been removed from the board for non-attendance.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be on April 21, 2006 at 6:00 PM

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.