

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
Planning Meeting November 13, 2006

ATTENDANCE:

Present: L. Joseph, I. Port, D. Averbach, C. Benedict, W. Holt, M.J. Johnson, M. McNeirney, M. Painter, A. Port, V. Simak, A. Ulke, B. Bergman, K. Bergman,

Absent: D. Mannheimer, M. P. Carns, F. Feldman, R. Franck, J. Gillette, P. Katz, W. Kelsey

Guest: R. Atkins (acting secretary)

President Lou Joseph called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Lou Joseph welcomed everyone to the planning meeting, the most important meeting of the year.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the meeting of October 13, 2006 had been previously e-mailed to the members. The minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Arlene stated that she received a lovely thank you from the Arsenal Family and Children's Service. Lou announced that there will be a Thursday night STAC at Rodef Shalom (7:00 PM) and a Sunday STAC team game at Blackridge (11:00 AM and TBA).

TREASURER'S REPORT

None presented – there will be one in December.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Post Mortem—Arlene reported that the Post Mortem was late and the explanation was included on the front page. Greensburg has not been receiving the Post Mortems and Mary Anne was asked to help out by insuring that they are received. The calendar continues to list a 3-month schedule.

Fall Sectional-A thank you was extended to Bill, Ron and Vince. There were 214 tables in play. This is down from 244 in 2004 and 237 in 2005. There was a lot of discussion on using other sites. Currently we have a contract for spring and summer of 2007 in McKeesport. It was agreed to use the Masonic Temple for the fall of 2007 sectional. The entire board will be looking for sites for the 2008 calendar year. The West View Fire hall is a possibility but because of Sunday bingo presents a problem. Roni will talk to the Expo mart about their upstairs space.

The reason that there were no guest speakers is because of the change in schedule. Attendance was up on Saturday with the new times. In the future a compact KO will be added on Saturday. The novice Swiss was well attended and will be included in future tournaments. The Saturday evening game was cancelled due to only 2 tables signing up to play.

Education & Marketing—Arlene reported that letters were sent to all units regarding the district education project and incentives. She advised that she would be teaching a class at CMU. This is a special program that uses volunteer teachers for all of the classes offered.

There was discussion that we need to have a continuous schedule of classes with three semesters. Of course, we need a place to hold the classes. There was talk of checking with the Catholic Diocese, St. Rosalia's, Community Day School, etc.

Bill explained that he saw himself more as a marketing person than as someone involved in the educational arm. He plans to go to the local schools (private first) and see about getting classes under way. He would also like to see us set up a bridge camp around the 3rd week in June. This would be for 3-5 mornings. We would need a site and teachers for this to be viable.

District Update-Roni advised that ACBL is offering insurance at no cost to all districts and units. Unit 142 has signed up for this. This is in addition to the insurance that we currently hold. Currently enough is not known for ACBL to advise us to drop the other insurance. The Rock and Roll regional is coming up in January and the flyers will be out soon.

Unit Operations/Improvement-Asim advised that a meeting was held with Durantes but they really are not interested in having us there for Friday nights. They stated that they need the area for banquets, where they make much more money. There was some discussion about moving the unit game to Saturday afternoon at the Masonic Temple or Thursday evening at Rodef. Currently, no decision to move has been made and Asim and Lou will try to meet with Blackridge regarding improvements to the facility (paving and outdoor lighting). Asim requested that the players start to help with the clean-up process.

Webmaster—Bill stated that the survey was garbled electronically and he would have a better report at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Honorariums-The board approved \$500 annual honorariums for the following positions:

- President
- Both Post Mortem Editors
- Webmaster
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Business Manager
- Unit Operations Manager

Lou declined the presidential honorarium.

NEW BUSINESS

Committees- A list of current committee chairs was distributed by Lou and the volunteers filled in the blank spaces. The new listing will be included in the email of these minutes.

Schedule-The current PBA schedule was distributed and the only change was moving the April board meeting to April 20 due to Gatlinburg the previous week.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be on December 1, 2006 at 6:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.