

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
June 13, 2008

ATTENDANCE:

Present: L. Joseph, R. Atkins, B. Bergman, K. Bergman, M. P. Carns, R. Franck, W. Holt, M. McNeirney, D. Mannheimer, M. Painter, I. Port, A. Ulke

Absent: S. McQuillan, S. Rohr

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by President Lou Joseph.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Lou Joseph thanked the members for attending. Lou reported that board member Sue McQuillan has been hospitalized.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting of April 11 were previously e-mailed to the members. The minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Lou reported that he received a letter from Aileen Osofsky, Chairman of the Goodwill Committee, requesting nominations for Goodwill Member of the Year. Maryanne McNeirney received thank you notes for sympathy cards she sent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ivan distributed the Treasurer's report. Expenses were up because of the recent purchase of outdoor lighting at Blackridge. Also income was down because there were no bridge lessons this period. Investment income is down as expected for current market conditions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Friendship/Condolence—Maryanne McNeirney continues to send cards for sympathy and get-well.

Post Mortem—Lou Joseph presented for Arlene.

Education—Lou Joseph presented for Arlene. New classes begin on July 7: Monday morning for Intermediate and Thursday evening for Beginners. The term is 7 weeks. Lou also just concluded a class in Fox Chapel with 30 students. There will be another class in the fall; and they are starting their own game on Monday morning. Roni suggested that the ACBL Cooperative Advertising

Program be used to advertise in the Post-Gazette. The board asked Ivan to request that Arlene advertise in the P-G.

Business Manager—Mary has several items on the agenda.

Operations Manager—Asim obtained a new towel dispenser for the ladies' room.

Novice—Darlene Mannheimer is signing up teams for the upcoming Summer Sectional. She is getting 9 to 12 tables on Tuesday afternoon and about 7 tables on Thursday evening.

There was a discussion about how games can be promoted to graduates of the educational program. After some discussion, it was agreed that Bill Holt will make a flyer containing all novice games in the unit—this flyer can be distributed by bridge teachers. Also, the board voted to provide a free entry to any game in Unit 142 for each graduate of a class held in unit 142. Bill Holt will create the entries and provide them to bridge teachers. Mary Paulone Carns will contact directors of clubs and inform them that this program will be starting at the conclusion of the upcoming classes (approximately mid August). This information will also be published in the Post Mortem.

Membership—Marilyn Painter reported no news.

Webmaster—Bill Holt distributed a document showing visits to the website. Visits have increased by approximately fourfold over the last 4 years despite a diminishing userbase. Bill has added an online registration form for classes as well as descriptions of classes available. He also replies via email to all who ask him for information.

District 5 and National News—Roni Atkins reported that Bill Holt and Dick Rasmus have been posting results of District 5 Regionals every night during the Regionals. At the District 5 meeting in May, the District affirmed its plan to keep entries at \$10. This is very low compared to the expected \$14 to \$16 which is being seen in the rest of the country.

The Expo Mart will no longer be available to the Labor Day Regional after 2008. The tournament will stay at the Radisson in Monroeville for at least the next 2 years, but there will be no room to grow. Roni brought fliers for the regional and asked members to hand them out at games. There are a few minor schedule changes, most notably the addition of a Compact KO on Sunday.

OLD BUSINESS

Summer Sectional June 20 - 22—Lou reported that plans are complete.

STaC Week—Mary Paulone Carns reported that things are progressing well unit-wide. The Thursday evening Unit-sponsored game, held last evening at Rodef Shalom, had a very poor turnout. It was not well advertised. Lou will run this game for the next 2 STaCs. If attendance does not increase after that, the unit will probably discontinue holding this game.

Awards Night (May 16)—Lou Joseph reported that the evening went well. He especially thanked Roni Atkins for stepping in to provide a great party.

Mentoring—Mary reported that there have been more people signing up than she expected. So far there are 8 mentors and 14 mentees. Mary encouraged Board members to sign up.

Over/Under 500 Contest—Mary reported that the conditions of contest were unclear about breaking ties after the 1st tiebreaker; also no specific conditions covered whether the prize could be deferred. The board voted that prizes will be divided evenly among tied positions; and that prizes consisting of free entries to the sectional may be deferred, but that all free entries to a sectional must be used at the same sectional.

NEW BUSINESS

Pro-Am Game Sept. 19—The date of the Pro-Am game has been moved at the request of the chairs. Mary reported that Sharon Rohr requested that the charity be the Fossick-Goodman Fund. This can't happen since the fund isn't a registered charity. Sharon will need to choose another charity. Bill Holt will make flyers.

Fossick-Goodman Educational Fund—Lou reported that friends and family members wish to memorialize Audrey and Gloria. This fund will be a subset of PBA funds to be administered for educational purposes.

Election Oct. 18—Mary reported for Ron Franck. Ron will identify those members whose terms are expiring and will learn whether they plan to run for the board. He also hopes to identify potential new members and encourage them to run.

Fall Sectional Oct. 17 - 19—Asim reported that the flyer is finished. Judy Haffner and Roni Atkins will meet with the Palisades about food. It needs to be determined what to do with the tables after the fall sectional, since they are currently stored at the Palisades.

Policy on Seeding for Club Games—Marilyn Painter reported that she played in a game in which all of the better players were seated in the same direction. The board has no control over club games.

Goodwill Member of the Year—See information under correspondence.

Stipend for GNT Finalist—Bernie Fudor is in the finals of Flight A of the GNT. As such, he is eligible to receive funds from the unit. Ivan reported that there is \$280 in the fund. He will write a check for this amount and send it to Bernie.

Caddy Salaries—The board voted to raise caddy salaries to \$37 per session, effective immediately. If the caddy works 2 consecutive sessions, he will receive an additional \$5 for dinner money.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be August 1 at 6:00 PM at Blackridge.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.