

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
August 14, 2009

ATTENDANCE:

Present: W. Holt, A. Ulke, B. Bergman, K. Bergman, M. P. Carns, R. Franck, L. Joseph, D. Mannheimer, J. Marshall, M. McNeirney, S. McQuillan, M. Painter, S. Rohr

Absent: I. Port, G. Retos, S. Schwarzwaelder

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 PM by President Bill Holt.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Bill thanked the members for their attendance and welcomed new member Jane Marshall.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the meeting of June 19 were previously e-mailed to the members. The minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mary reported that she received a notice from the ACBL that the McKeesport Games have closed. The ACBL sent a thank-you to the unit for the contribution resulting from the Charity Game. The unit received a Thank You note from the Turacy team, for our contribution toward their appearance in the National Finals of the Grand National Teams.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ivan was absent, and there was no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Friendship/Condolence—Maryanne McNeirney sent 18 cards since the last meeting. She reported that Catherine Thompson, former member and secretary of the board, has died.

Post Mortem—Lou Joseph said that he is still trying to get clubs to report on special games, high scores, and winners of consecutive games. There was a discussion of ways to get the Post Mortem to more clubs. Difficulties occur in part because the PM doesn't come out at the same time each month and recent attempts to develop more formal distribution methods for many unit materials has been unsuccessful.

Education—Lou Joseph reported that the hoped-for supervised play series didn't happen. The next series of classes will be on Monday and Wednesday starting September 21. Lou is teaching an advanced class.

There was a discussion about free plays for graduates of classes. Some classes are informal and the current system doesn't incorporate this possibility. Bill reminded the members that proper procedure requires advance registration by the teacher, which allows the class to be advertised. Mary reported that no one is following proper procedure for redemption, which requires that teachers transmit rosters, including phone numbers and email addresses to Mary; and directors are supposed to report receipt of free play script to Mary.

The board decided that informal classes will qualify for the free play script if at least 8 classes are held.

Business Manager—Mary, Bill, and Ken have not yet met with Alex (Unit 229), in anticipation of running the summer sectional jointly.

Operations Manager—Asim reported no problems.

Novice—Darlene Mannheimer reported that there have been successful novice groups at the sectionals. She works to match partners and teams. She also had 11 tables at a recent club game. Lou reminded the members that there will be a special dinner with hand analysis on Saturday evening at the upcoming regional. Bill mentioned the special novice team event, held a few years ago, which was successful. Bill and Darlene will consider developing a similar event in the future.

Membership—Marilyn Painter is out of directories.

Webmaster—Bill Holt reported that he is uncomfortable advertising newcomer games to be held at the Friday night Unit game when in fact there hasn't been a quorum for this game for a long time.

District 5 and National News—Mary reported that plans are well underway for the Roni Atkins Pittsburgh Regional to be held at the Hyatt at the Airport from Sept. 1 to 7. She asked for volunteers to help with last-minute issues.

OLD BUSINESS

Summer Sectional—Bill distributed a financial report. The table count was the highest for the summer in many years. The tournament made money, and the directors were good.

Olympiad Contest—Mary reported that the winners are Dev Meyers and Robert Heasley. The contest was a modest success, with 9 players who played at least

4 games during the qualifying period, and 6 of those players aren't regular participants at the weekly game.

Pro-Am Game (September 25)—Sharon and Sue reported that the game is sold out (site filled to capacity). Alex Bealles is directing and will have duplicated hands and hand records.

Fossick-Goodman Swiss Teams (Oct. 4)—Lou reported that fliers are out. Gus will direct; Jane Marshall will handle the finances.

Fall Sectional (Nov. 6 – 8)—Lou, Sue McQuillan, and Steve S. are chairs. Bill distributed fliers. Maryanne will take care of partnerships and Darlene is in charge of newcomers.

Election (Nov. 7)—Barb contacted members whose terms are expiring, put an ad in the Post Mortem, and passed out petitions for those who are running.

Mentoring—Mary has gotten no volunteers to take over the mentoring program. She will develop copy for the Post Mortem and the website to advertise for a new chair.

Alternate Sites for Unit Game—Discussion postponed until next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Greensburg Sectional—Bill Holt reported that Peggy Shivetts has resigned as chair. He has worked to put a committee together (Arlene Jacobelli, Kitty Jo Hellmann, Pat Kunkelman, Brad Craig, FX Plunkett). This is a Unit 142 sectional but for many years it has been run independently by the club which meets on Thursday Afternoons in Greensburg.

December STaC Week (Dec. 7 – 13)—Mary announced the dates of STaC week. The unit will have the usual Friday evening game, which is also the Holiday party (hosted by Bill Seran and Carole Shanahan); and a Sunday Swiss--Asim is in charge. The board decided not to hold a special STaC game Thursday evening, as the Steelers are playing which will probably hurt attendance.

Representatives to District 5 Meeting—Mary has a vote because of her position as Vice President. The 4 positions granted to the unit will be filled by Bill Holt, Sue McQuillan, Lou Joseph, and Maryanne McNeirney.

New Appointment—Bill announced his appointment of Jane Marshall as Assistant Treasurer.

Instant Matchpoint Game (September 9)—Lou and Barb are in charge; there is a Potluck dinner at 6:15 with bridge at 7:00. The sanction is Sue Golier's with the game sponsored by the Unit (Director is Gus Costanzo).

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will on October 9, 2009 at 6:00 PM at Blackridge (note: this was changed to October 30, 2009). Barb will act as Secretary in Mary's absence. The Planning meeting will be Monday November 16 at 6:00 PM at The Design Center, 5001 Baum Blvd.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM.