

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
PLANNING MEETING  
November 15, 2010

ATTENDANCE:

Present: W. Holt, A. Ulke, M. P. Carns, B. Bergman, K. Bergman, L. Joseph, Patty Katz, J. Marshall, S. McQuillan, W. Seran, C. Shanahan

Absent: R. Franck, M. McNeirney, M. Painter, S. Rohr

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Bill Holt.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Bill welcomed new members Patty Katz, Bill Seran, and Carole Shanahan and thanked outgoing members Steve Schwarzwaelder, Darlene Mannheimer, and George Retos. He thanked the members of the board for the opportunity to serve as president and for the Amazon gift card he received and noted that he was making a donation to FIRE.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the meeting of October 8 were previously e-mailed to the members. The minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Larry Evans is the new Manager of the Greensburg Thursday game.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jane distributed and reviewed the treasurer's report. The Pro Am game earned approximately \$5000 for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, and the 3 sectionals cleared over \$5000.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In each instance, the elected person was the only nominee and was elected unanimously:

President: Asim Ulke

Vice President: Barb Bergman

Treasurer: Jane Marshall

Mary Paulone Carns will continue as secretary.

The new president, Asim Ulke took over the meeting. He thanked Bill for his service as President.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Friendship/Condolence**—Maryanne McNeirney was absent.

**Post Mortem**—Lou reported that all is well. He spoke with Arlene Port about the possibility of publishing the PM quarterly in print, but continuing monthly online.

**Education**—Lou reported that there are 2 weeks to go in the current set of classes. The beginners' classes have had a nice turnout.

**Business Manager**—Mary reported that the Unit game is doing better and thanked Alice and Jane for their efforts; she reported that the special Am game will be held Jan. 28. Swiss Team games are popular. She suggested that Gus receive a Holiday Bonus. The board voted to present him with \$100.

**Operations Manager**—Asim reported that things are going well at the new site in Wilkins.

**Novice**—Darlene Mannheimer is no longer on the board but will continue to hold this position. Mary will try to get updates from her periodically.

**Membership**—Marilyn Painter was absent.

**Webmaster**—Bill reported that the website is functioning well. He reported that he added headers, mentioning the Fall Sectional, at the top of the club results. One director objected and wants to give specific approval before anything is added to the results of his clubs. The board agreed that the content of the PBA website is at the discretion of the webmaster. Bill stated that he didn't, and wouldn't, add content that could be detrimental or conflict with events at a club.

**District 5 and National News**—Mary reported that the date for the Buffalo Regional has been changed to October 12 – 16, 2011. Thursday or Friday of that week had been on the proposed Unit Calendar as the Pro-Am game.

**Bridge Teacher Liaison** — This position is currently open. Mary has spoken to an individual who is considering accepting this position.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Pro-Am Game**—Lou reported that all went well. It was a spectacular event. The board thanks Judy Haffner and Arlene Port.

**Fossick-Goodman Swiss** — Lou reported that there were 21 tables and the event was very nice. This is probably the last year that the event will be held.

**Fall Sectional**—Bill Holt reported that the table count was up by 30 tables over 1 year ago. The single-session Swiss Teams on Friday evening was a success.

**STaC Week (Dec. 6 – 12)** — Mary reported that plans are progressing. In addition to the Friday evening unit game, the unit is sponsoring a game at the Glenshaw Moose on Thursday evening (STaC 'n' Snack, Lou & Barb are in charge) and a 2-session Swiss Team on Sunday at Wilkins (Asim is in charge).

**Spring Sectional (April 1 – 3)** —The Bergmans reported that the schedule will be the same; they are looking for kitchen help.

**Holiday Party (Dec. 10)** — Jane and Asim reported that plans are underway. Marilyn Siebart and Susan Podgers are in charge and have sign-up sheets requesting helpers.

**Mentoring Program** —Bill Seran reported that there about 40 people on the mentor/mentee list; most of them are looking for mentors. He tries to make matches in real time when he gets a request.

**Job Descriptions & Backups** —Mary requested that Committee Chairs provide a job description, detailed enough that a substitute would be able to perform the job. Essential personnel should also find a person who is willing to substitute for them, if necessary.

#### PLANNING BUSINESS

**Membership Roster of the PBA Board**—Mary previously emailed rosters to the members. Members were asked to review their information for accuracy.

**Committees**—Committee chairs were appointed as indicated on the committee list.

#### **Sectional Plans 2011—**

- Site: Sectionals will continue to be at the Masonic Center.
- Operations: Schedules and timing will remain the same as in 2010. Saturday times are 11 AM and 4 PM.

**Unit Calendar**—Mary presented a proposed calendar for 2011. The calendar was adopted. There will continue to be a Swiss Teams monthly at the Unit Game.

**Honoraria**—The following honoraria, each \$500 annually, were voted separately and approved:

President  
Both Post Mortem Editors  
Webmaster  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Business Manager

Unit Operations Manager  
Both Education Chairs

Asim declined the honorarium for President  
Lou declined the honorarium for Education Chair

**Club Liaison**—Mary reported that the Unit's relationship with the clubs, and thus with local players, is hit-and-miss. This affects not only publicity but goodwill, and community. Her suggestion is that the Unit have a liaison who coordinates interaction with each club. One way to accomplish this would be to have a representative for each club or group of clubs. The representatives would have the following qualifications and responsibilities:

- Attend most of the games at the club(s)
- Transmit information to the coordinator (70% games, special events, new life masters, illnesses and deaths)
- Distribute fliers for the unit & district. Make sure that fliers are up to date and replenished
- Make announcements about District & Unit events
- Convey messages from the club to the coordinator

The coordinator would have the following responsibilities:

- Appoint the club representatives
- Receive the information from the club representatives and transmit it to the appropriate individuals (Post Mortem editors, Webmaster, Charity & Sympathy Chair, 5<sup>th</sup> Column reporter, etc.)
- Develop a method of distributing fliers and information to the club representatives

Bill Holt volunteered to assume this position.

**Reporter for 5<sup>th</sup> Column**—Maryanne McNeirney has resigned. Carole Shanahan volunteered to accept this position.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be April 8, 2011 at 6:00 PM at Wilkins.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.