

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
April 26, 2013

ATTENDANCE:

Present: B. Bergman, J. Baseman, J. Bernhard, K. Bergman, M. P. Carns, L. Hanna, W. Holt, L. Joseph, J. Marshall, R. Neafach, P. Silver, B. Weinstein

Absent: R. Franck, M. McNeirney, C. Shanahan

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 PM by President Barbara Bergman.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Barbara Bergman welcomed the members.

- She announced that Asim Ulke has resigned from the board
- She asked all board members to make announcements at clubs they attend and make sure that there are flyers at those clubs. She specifically mentioned the following upcoming events
  - Awards Night May 17
  - Fossick-Goodman Swiss June 2
  - STaC 'n' Snack June 13

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Mary reported the following correspondence

- New Game, Longvue Country Club, Thursdays at 11 AM, open game but reservations are required
- NABC Open World Youth Championships, August 3 – 11 in Atlanta. This is open to all people born in 1988 or later. The website is [youth4bridge.org](http://youth4bridge.org)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jane presented the Treasurer's report, including year-to-date totals, Sectional expenses for 2012 and 2013 and Sectional Table Counts 2012-2013. Costs for sectional supplies are pro-rated based on table count. She presented a revised sectional report for 2012 after expenses were properly allocated. She asked sectional chairs to be aware of fixed overhead costs when planning their budget, and pointed out that profit is a direct effect of table count.

John Bernhard recommended that the funds in the investment account (approximately \$90,000) be analyzed. He is a retired investment advisor. The

funds are currently in Vanguard Wellington and are split between an index fund and an income fund. John will investigate.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Post Mortem**—Lou said that there is a new “Ask Ernie” column. Bill will put a link on the webpage, and Lorraine will email newer players about the column.

**Education**—Lou reported that there is a Beginner 2 class with 14 people, currently in the 4<sup>th</sup> week.

**Business Manager**—Mary announced the dates for the 2014 Sectionals:  
Spring: March 28 – 30  
Summer: July 11 – 13  
Fall: November 14 – 16

**Membership**—Phyllis Silver sent welcome letters to new members, containing a coupon for a free session at the unit game.

**Webmaster**—NR

**District 5 and National News**—Mary reported that the ACBL has introduced a new method of interacting with Tournament Chairs. Some of the functions previously performed by Mary (as Tournament Coordinator) may be directed to the chairs. Mary will continue to perform these functions; chairs should forward relevant emails to her.

The ACBL has increased the required tournament surcharge for nonmembers. These funds accrue to the sponsoring organization. Starting January 2014, the charges are at least \$3 per session for Sectionals and at least \$4 per session for Regionals.

**Bridge Teacher Liaison**—Lorraine Hanna emailed bridge teachers about the possibility of using the dealing machine to create specific hand types for teaching games. She has 3 people from LB1D in her classes.

**Pupil Games**—Lorraine Hanna reported that she has had 195 students in Pupil games since the start of the program. There have been some issues with rude behavior.

**Club Liaison**—Bill has representatives for all clubs. They are supposed to make announcements and make sure there are flyers and Post Mortems at all games.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Spring Sectional April 12 - 14**—Ken Bergman is disappointed in the attendance (down by 31 tables). He thinks that the proximity of the Gatlinburg and Titusville Tournaments may have contributed.

**Fossick-Goodman Game June 2**—Flyers are out.

**December STaC Games**—Mary reported that plans for the Thursday and Sunday games were on hold pending the release of the Steeler schedule. Plans were that only 1 of these games would be held, with preference given to Sunday. There is no Steeler game on Thursday, and the Steeler game on Sunday is at 8:30. Thus the Sunday Swiss Team will be held. Mary suggested that, although the original plan was not to hold 2 games, the game be held on Thursday, as there is no other game in the unit on Thursday, and the STaC 'n' Snack format is popular. Discussion centered around the possibility that there would be too many events in a short time (including the Holiday Party). The motion to hold the game, at the Moose, if available, was defeated. Therefore there won't be a Thursday STaC 'n' Snack game in December.

**Awards Night May 17**—Lou reported that plans are in place. Ron and Shirley Franck are hosting.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Summer Sectional July 19 - 21**—Bill said that the flyer will be in color.

**Sectional Times**—Barb suggested changing the Friday game times to 1:00 & 7:00, from the current 1:30 & 7:30. The players seem to prefer earlier times and it will help the chairs with turnover. The change was adopted.

**Prorating Sectional Expenses**—See Treasurer's report.

**Summer STaC Week June 10 - 16**—Thursday STaC 'n' Snack is chaired by Jeanne Baseman. Barb talked to Gus about the possibility of holding a Saturday afternoon game. He will do it if he can find a site. Bill will make a flyer.

**Olympiad Contest**—Mary said that the District 5 Olympiad is in August, and the unit normally holds an Olympiad Contest in which the winner(s) get free entries to the event and the cost of a shared room. The purpose of the contest is to publicize the Olympiad, encourage attendance at the Olympiad, and to encourage attendance at the Unit Game. The last purpose hasn't been fulfilled in past years. She wondered if we should continue to hold the contest. The board thought yes, so it will be held. Bill will make a flyer.

**Representatives to District 5 Meeting**—Barb and Ken Bergman will attend. Lou Joseph will recruit 2 more representatives.

**LB1D**—Bill said that we own a license to present LB1D, which we ran twice in the last year (attendance was ~50 in Sept. and ~20 in Jan). We know that some of the students are playing and taking lessons. Do we want to renew the license at \$150/yr? Space at the Regional is free. The consensus was to renew and to hold the course at least in September.

**Member-Guest Event**—Lorraine suggested holding such an event. Due to time constraints, this will be on the agenda at the next meeting.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Friday June 14 at 6:00 PM at Wilkins. [NOTE: following the meeting, the date of the next meeting was changed to Friday June 21].

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.