

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING

February 13, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

Present: R. Franck, J. Baseman, J. Bernhard, B. Bergman, K. Bergman, M. P. Carns, G. Goetz, W. Holt, L. Joseph, J. Marshall, R. Neafach, C. Wang, B. Weinstein

Absent: L. Hanna, C. Shanahan

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Ron Franck.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Ron welcomed the members. He thanked the board members for their confidence in electing him president, and thanked Barb Bergman for her help in the transition. Ron plans to talk to players to see how we can serve them better. He has 3 conclusions:

- Players love hand records
- Players love the webpage
- Players love the Unit Game and the partnership function performed by Jane Marshall

Ron thanked Barb Bergman for her hospitality at the IMP game and Ruthie and Jeanne for their hospitality at the Holiday Party.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the Planning meeting of November 24 were previously e-mailed to the members. The minutes were approved pending correction of a name misspelling and an incorrect date in the committee list.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mary reported on 3 club games. There is a new game starting Feb. 19 at the Chartiers Community Center. The games at the Masonic Center held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings have been cancelled. Sandy Schuchert and Lois Kort, who ran these games, have donated the equipment and supplies to the PBA. In appreciation, the board unanimously decided to give them \$100 each.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jane distributed the Treasurer's report. The treasury is currently building up funds; we have already paid the deposit for the spring sectional.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Post Mortem—NR**

**Education**—Lou reported that there will be new lessons beginning in the spring.

**Business Manager**—Mary reported that she will order supplies before the sectional.

### **Membership—NR**

**Webmaster**—Bill Holt reported that Gary Goetz will be the assistant webmaster. He said that a player requested an online partnership desk. The board decided that this is a good idea. Various technical issues will be investigated by Bill and Gary. The procedure for notification regarding cancellations of club games has been simplified. Managers will call or text Bill who will post online and add to the phone hotline.

**Bridge in Schools**— John Bernhard reported that there will be a second semester of the program which was held in the fall on Mondays and Thursdays after school at the Moon YMCA. The spring program will be on Thursdays only. The fall program was a success. Bill said that he is hoping to arrange a second site. Plans for Winchester Thurston didn't pan out. We also need a teacher for the East. Members have potential contacts at Imani, Fox Chapel, and Shadyside Academy.

**Learn Bridge in 1 Day**—Bill said that LB1D will be held again on Saturday during the Pittsburgh Regional at the Hyatt. The Board OK'd Bill to purchase the license at \$150/year. In answer to a question, Bill said that we don't track those who attended previous classes; LB1D is mostly about increasing awareness of bridge in the community.

**District 5 and National News**—Mary reported that the ACBL has a new privacy policy. Complete information is on the ACBL website, but the effect is that any publication of member contact information, in print or online, may occur only as part of an "opt-in" program. Organizations who previously published directories may continue to do so, but any additions require explicit permission by the person who is added.

Barbara Bergman distributed the report from the District Director.

### **Newcomer & Bridge Teacher Liaison—NR**

**Club Liaison**—Jeanne Baseman reported that flyers for the Spring Sectional are being distributed.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Incentives for Potential Directors**—Mary presented the following motion which had been previously emailed to the members:

The PBA recognizes that the number of club directors is at a critical low. To encourage players to become directors, and to encourage currently inactive directors to become active, the following incentives will be put in place:

Any member of Unit 142 who is not currently (as of March 1, 2015), and has never been, a club director will be eligible to receive a stipend of \$250 upon completion of the following:

- Preparing for the Club Directors Exam by enrolling in a Club Directors Course, taking the Ruling the Game online course, or studying on one's own
- Taking and passing the Club Directors Exam
- Directing, without supervision, at least 6 club games at clubs within Unit 142

Any club director who is inactive (as of March 1, 2015 has not directed any club games for at least 1 year) will be eligible to receive a stipend of \$200 upon completion of the following:

- Updating one's skills by taking a Club Directors Course or other courses available online via the ACBL website, directing under supervision, or studying on one's own
- Directing, without supervision, at least 12 club games within Unit 142

The director who plans to qualify for a stipend should keep a diary of games directed. In order to receive these incentives, the director must be a current member of Unit 142 in good standing, with ACBL dues or ACBL Life Member fees paid up.

More information about becoming a club director and maintaining ones skills is available at [http://www.acbl.org/clubs\\_page/club-administration/club-directors/become-a-club-director/](http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/club-administration/club-directors/become-a-club-director/)  
[http://www.acbl.org/clubs\\_page/club-administration/club-directors/](http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/club-administration/club-directors/)  
[http://www.acbl.org/clubs\\_page/club-administration/club-directors/club-director-update-course/](http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/club-administration/club-directors/club-director-update-course/)

Following discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

**Instant MP Game Oct. 16 (Friday Morning)**—Bill reported that Gus will direct the game; Ken and Barb Bergman are chairs. Various possible sites were discussed. It is still to be determined whether this game will be run by Gus (who has the club sanction for the session) or by the PBA.

**Unit Facebook Page**—Gary reported that the page is up. He is trying to figure out how to display club games.

**Spring Sectional Mar. 20-22**—Barbara Bergman reported that plans are progressing. She is concerned about attendance. Apparently many people will be out of town.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Sectional Dates for 2016**—Dates are April 8-10, July 15-17, Nov. 11-13. There is a concern because Gatlinburg starts the day after the spring sectional. However dates are tight in the spring and this was the best choice.

**Awards Night May 15**—Lou is chair. Ron is in charge of hospitality.

**Unit Computer**—Jane suggested that the Unit purchase a new computer. This would resolve the issue of differing functionalities of various directors' computers. The software for ACBLScore, the dealing machine, etc. would all be working and readily available. CMU sells used computers every semester. We could get a Windows laptop worth \$500 for \$250. The board agreed to this purchase.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be June 12 at 6:00 PM at Wilkins.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.