

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING

June 12, 2015

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

Absent: J. Baseman, C. Shanahan

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

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Ron welcomed the members and suggested reading the mission statement of the PBA before every meeting. He did so: To serve the bridge-related interests of its members, and to promote and sustain the game of bridge. Ron wants to get as many people involved as possible, serving on committees, running events, etc. He said that Shirley was thrilled to have received the Distinguished Service Award.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes from the meeting of April 10 were previously e-mailed to the members. The minutes were approved with one correction.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mary reported that the game at the Chartiers Community Center has moved to Friday morning.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Jane distributed and reviewed the treasurer's report. The PBA received a \$5000 donation from the estate of Sally Levin. We spent \$1466 on bid box inserts. Year-to-date total on sectionals is (-\$6587), but we have already paid deposits for the 3 sectionals next year. The Fossick-Goodman Swiss had 27 tables resulting in \$1015 toward bridge education.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Post Mortem**—NR

**Education**—Lou reported that there are 9 students in the beginners' class.

**Business Manager**—NR

**Membership**—Barb Bergman reported for Carole Shanahan that she is up to date with new member letters and friendship/sympathy cards.

**Webmaster—NR**

**Facebook Page—**Gary reported that more people are visiting the page. He asked for more content.

**Bridge in Schools—**

- Bill reported that John B's Moon Township program will have 30-40 students in the fall. They want to go to 2 days per week, which will require more volunteers. The Staff at the Y think that their program is growing because of bridge.
- Bill saw an article in the newspaper about a teacher at Sewickley Academy who has an interest in gaming and card play. Bill and Barb Bergman met with him. We are on his calendar to participate in a gaming class to be held in the fall. This could morph into an after-school activity for grades 7-12.
- There is a possibility of a third site in Fox Chapel.
- We have a volunteer to teach in the east, but currently no site.

**District 5 and National News—**Mary reported on the following:

- The All-American Regional (May) and the Rock-n-Roll Regional (January), held in Independence, OH will be moving to the Embassy Suites (same city) in May, 2016.
- The Buffalo Regional has a date change and a new site. The tournament will be Oct. 20-25 at the Adams Mark. Championship events will be at 10:00 & 3:00.
- The RONI Labor Day Regional is at the Hyatt, Sept. 1-7. Mary asked members to take flyers to any out-of-town bridge events that they attend.

**Newcomer & Bridge Teacher Liaison—**Lorraine has 9 students in Bridge Basics 1; one of whom attended LB1D in 2014. She sends out hundreds of emails each month to social players and others. She sent links to board members for information and brochures regarding attracting newer and social bridge players.

**Club Liaison—**Ruthie presented the report for Jeanne Baseman. Jeanne is passing out flyers and making sure they are available at games. Board members were requested to make announcements at games to promote special events.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Incentives for Potential Directors—**This item will appear in the July Post Mortem.

**Awards Night May 15—**Lou reported that Ron and Shirley did a good job. Ron is distributing the medallions to those who didn't attend.

**Unit Computer Purchase**—Gus is waiting for the right computer to be available.

**Summer STaC June 15-21**—Mary reminded members to make announcements about the PBA-sponsored games: Thursday evening and Friday evening.

**Thursday STaC game June 18**—Ruthie reported that plans are in place. The game is at the Glenshaw Moose at 7 PM. Gus is directing. Up to 20 tables are expected.

**Summer Sectional July 10-12**—Bill said that the team is assembled and hospitality is arranged. He thanked the Masonic for holding prices for next year.

**Newcomer Meet 'n' Greet at Sectionals**—Ron will meet with newcomers on Saturday morning, 15 minutes before game time.

**LB1D**—Bill has flyers. Members were asked to distribute them to community venues. There will be a followup a week later at Wilkins. Lorraine suggested putting articles in local papers.

**Instant MP Game Oct. 16 (Friday Morning)**—Bill reported that the site (Glenshaw Moose) and director (Gus Costanzo) are arranged. Because of space considerations, the event will be reservation-only. Flyers will be out before the regional.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Insurance for Off-Site Events**—Mary reported that the ACBL provides insurance for Sectionals and STaCs. The PBA has insurance, through the venue, for our Friday evening unit games. However, there is no “automatic” insurance for Unit-sponsored events which are not at Wilkins, and which are not covered by the ACBL. Examples are the Pro-Am Game and Instant Matchpoint game. Mary discussed this with Sharon Fairchild who discussed it with ACBL officials, including the CEO. The ACBL is approaching their insurance carrier to try to provide coverage for Units for these special events.

**Pro-Am Game and Choosing Charity**—Jane asked for input regarding the Charity beneficiary of the Pro-Am Game. The charity should be politically neutral. Send suggestions to Jane. Her committee will review the information and present it at the next meeting.

**Bid Box Inserts**—Mary became aware of a sale, and received permission by email to purchase these. The purchase has been made and the bid boxes will be cleaned and filled before the sectional. Mary asked for a formal vote for this purchase: Bid box inserts sufficient for 60 tables, at a cost of \$1466, including shipping. The vote was unanimous in favor.

**Glenshaw Site**—Gary reported that his Saturday game lost this site and hasn't yet obtained another. The game will be homeless by the end of the month. Other sites are being investigated. The hope is that all of the games currently or previously played at the Glenshaw Moose can be played at the same new site.

**Sectional Chairs 2016**—Barb Bergman reported that she and Ken may be out of town for the winter, and is hoping that someone will trade with her—she would give up the Spring Sectional and would chair in Summer or Fall.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be August 7 at 6:00 PM at Wilkins (note change from previously announced date of August 14).

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.