

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING

February 19, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

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

Absent: J. Baseman, K. Bergman, 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. There was a moment of silence in memory of Lou Joseph. Ron discussed the concept of "Quantity, Quality, Efficiency" as it applies to the work of the PBA. We might be too focused on Quantity (attendance and numbers of events). The other 2 are more in our control. Examples are LB1D, which had much positive feedback, and the quality improvements at the Friday Night Unit game, which has led to increased attendance.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mary reported that the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and Suburban games have been cancelled. Dustin Hoover has resigned as the manager & director at Rodef. Gary Goetz is interested in the position.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jane distributed and reviewed the treasurer's report. The report was for all of 2015 plus the monthly report from January. The balance is up by ~\$2000, mostly because January is a month when we receive proceeds from dues. The net sum of income from operations in 2015 was \$5785; that includes the \$5000 bequest that we received from the estate of Sally Levin.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Post Mortem**—Ron reported that there have been some growing pains since following Lou's death. Bruce Stephen joined the editorial staff. Ron will meet with Bruce and Arlene.

**Education**—Bill reported that the other positions held by Lou have been filled, but this position remains open. The position involves running classes sponsored by the unit and held at Rodef Shalom. There are 2 concurrent classes, beginning and intermediate; there are 2 series per year, spring and fall. Bill suggested that he and Barb Bergman might be able to fill the position held by Lou. Spring

classes are starting soon. Long-term plans can be made while Bill and Barb are filling in for Lou. Ron will discuss these plans with Arlene.

**Business Manager**—Mary presented updated committee and roster lists. Bill Holt is the chair of Education. Members were asked to check their information on the roster.

**Membership**—Carole Shanahan was absent but emailed a report: no problems.

**Webmaster**—Bill reported that clubs may report cancellations via [cancel@pittsburghbridge.org](mailto:cancel@pittsburghbridge.org). This address forwards to Bill and Gary (for the webpage) and Lorraine (for the phone message).

**Facebook Page**—Gary reported that the page is getting more views. Lorraine requested that a call for volunteers be posted on the page.

### **Bridge in Schools—**

Bill reported on the following:

- The program in Fox Chapel was a success. They want us back next year. He thanked J. Baseman, P. Caplan, D. McKinley, A. Cullen, and S. & J. Drake.
- Sewickley Academy cancelled at the last minute.

John reported regarding Moon:

- The semester started yesterday. There are 8 sixth-graders in the advanced class and 13-14 fifth-graders in the intermediate class. Thus there are 5 tables each Monday and Thursday. There has been a good response to requests for volunteers but we still need more. Hours are 3:15-4:30.
- The current program involves 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders only. John and a teacher who is taking lessons are considering starting an after-school club in the middle school.

**LB1D**—Bill reported on the program held in January:

- 36 signed up, but weather forced a cancellation. 24 made it to the rescheduled date, of which 23 came to the followup.
- A problem is that there is no place for the new students to play regularly. There is a possibility of getting clubs on board. They could host a table of rubber bridge at club games.
- Bill is trying to set up a make-up for the remaining registrants toward the end of April, if at least 2 tables register.

**District 5 and National News**—Mary reported that Barb Bergman is the new co-chair for the RONI Regional.

**Newcomer /Bridge Teacher Liaison/Volunteer Recruitment**—Mary reported for Lorraine, who sent her report by email.

### Newcomer and Teacher:

- 1) She has 3 different groups in Sewickley. 7 of them play in sanctioned games.
- 2) Starting in April she will be teaching Bridge Basics 3. 12 signed up to date; several play in sanctioned games.
- 3) She taught Bridge Basics 1 to a group of 8 in Sewickley Ridge (over-55 community). She intends to continue sometime in April when the snowbirds return.
- 4) Sewickley Ridge's Events Coordinator asked if she would be willing to teach other classes. She was going to advertise in their Newsletter.
- 5) NEED FOR 0-5 OR 0-20 POINT GAME: She talked with Darlene Mannheimer regarding a need for a "real" novice game. RE: finding a venue for LB1D grads: She suggests John Bernhard's games for Novice Players. The games are smaller and less intimidating. Other Novice Games in the area seem to be overwhelming for new players.

### Volunteer Recruitment

She has an email list of close to 50 volunteers.

**Club Liaison**—Chris Wang has been distributing fliers.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Timer for Sectionals**—Barb Bergman reported on the In Tempo II timer. It costs \$485 with shipping. Bill and Gary will investigate other options.

**Fall Sectional**—Ron reported that things went well. Bill reported that Sue McQuillan and Sharon Rohr will be his co-chairs for the Summer Sectional.

**Thursday STaC game (December)**—Barb Weinstein reported that all went well.

**LB1D January**—Bill reported on this earlier in the meeting.

**Spring Sectional April 8-10**—The only issue is hospitality workers for all 3 sectionals. Ron reported that Shirley will help on Friday nights. Barb Bergman reported that Marcellina will work all 3 Saturdays. Marcella Retetagos knows someone who might work on Sundays (at \$15/hr).

### NEW BUSINESS

**Allocation of Lou Joseph's Duties**—The following arrangements have been made:

- Post-Mortem: Bruce Stephen is working with Arlene.
- Education: See discussion above. In the short term Bill and Barb B. will volunteer.
- Publicity: Bill Holt will be in charge.
- Awards Night: Ron Franck will do.

**Awards Night May 13**—Ron is in charge. Mary sent him the information regarding awards. Mary asked about whether we should continue to present medals for the Mini-McKinney winners. Cost is about \$70 with shipping, and next year there will be 2 new categories. The board decided that we should continue to present metals. John Bernhard suggested that club directors should recognize the leaders of the Mini-McKinney races at club games.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be April 1, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Wilkins.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.