

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

April 1, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

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

Absent: J. Marshall, C. Shanahan

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by President Ron Franck.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Ron welcomed the members. He said that there is a lot of work involved in running the unit, and thanked those who do that work.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jane was absent, and had sent her report to Mary who presented it. The cash balance is ~\$10,900. The Unit Education program de facto consisted of the classes at Rodef. This program has been taken over by Rodef Shalom. On Jane's behalf, Mary moved that the honoraria for this position be eliminated, and that expenses not be paid. Jane had previously discussed this with Arlene who was in agreement. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Post Mortem—Ron reported that Bruce resigned. Arlene wishes to continue as editor but needs help. In the short term, Ron will submit content to her and suggest topics. Ernie's rebuttal to the article concerning non-randomness of predealt hands is in the April issue and an article about BiS is planned for May. There was a discussion about whether there should continue to be a printed PM, and whether it would be appropriate to have content on the website only. Issues are that in the past Arlene would not agree to work if the PM was online only; and some people still don't have access to a computer. The plan is for Ron to get the cost of printing; Gary, Chris, and Ron will help with the technical aspects of production including formatting and proofreading. The possibility of an online-only product will be discussed at the Planning Meeting.

Education—Bill proposed that the Education program be revamped and divided into 3 parts:

- Adult Education
- Bridge in Schools
- LB1D

This will be discussed further at the Planning Meeting.

Business Manager—NR

Membership—Carole Shanahan was absent.

Webmaster—NR

Facebook Page—Gary reported that the page is getting more views.

Bridge in Schools/LB1D—

- Bridge in Schools
 - John said that the Moon Area Board of Education approved an after-school bridge club for 7th and 8th graders, starting in the fall. There is a faculty member who is taking lessons and might be an advisor. John and Bill will develop a program to present to the Moon Board. We need teachers.
 - After-school classes will continue at the Y (5th & 6th grade). It is hoped that current volunteers will continue.
 - Bill reported that the program in Fox Chapel was a big success. There are plans for a repeat next winter.
 - June Morrison has the possibility of a summer bridge camp at the Cranberry Y (Unit 229 but our unit will be the support for this). Bill and Lorraine will meet with her.
- LB1D
 - The winter program was a success despite snow cancellation of the original session. There is a closed makeup session planned in April over 2 evenings at the Field Club. 11 of the 12 who couldn't attend the rescheduled presentation are registered to attend.

District 5 and National News—Plans are progressing for the RONI Regional. Flyers are out. The All American Regional (Independence, OH) is moving to the Embassy Suites.

Newcomer /Bridge Teacher Liaison/Volunteer Recruitment—Lorraine reported.

Newcomer:

She talked to Darlene about the possibility of accommodating newcomers at one of her games. Thursday is possible but she needs a volunteer to help. Lorraine sent out emails about special games for newcomers, available via the ACBL. Lorraine and Darlene have several classes for newcomers.

Volunteer Recruitment

She has an email list of close to 50 volunteers. She wants something to appear on the Facebook page about volunteer recruitment. She will send the information to Gary Goetz.

Club Liaison—Chris Wang has flyers for the Fossick-Goodman Swiss and Cleveland All-American Regional. Mary gave him flyers for the RONI regional.

OLD BUSINESS

Timer for Sectionals—Gary bought a timer for his own use for \$108. For the upcoming Spring Sectional, the unit will rent this timer from Gary for \$12 for the weekend. If this timer is suitable we will purchase one for ourselves.

Hospitality Workers for Sectionals—Barb Bergman reported that Shirley Franck will work Friday evenings, Marcellina on Saturdays, and a friend of Marcella Retetagos on Sundays.

Spring Sectional April 8-10—Barb and Ken reported that plans are in place. They are concerned about a possible attendance drop. Many people seem to have other plans and there is a perceived lack of enthusiasm among the players. Ken said that next year's sectional dates are:

- March 24-26
- July 14-16
- Oct 27-29

Awards Night May 13—Ron reported that there was too much food last year. Adequate food will be provided, but not as much as last year. Mary gave medals to Ron. Bill will make certificates.

NEW BUSINESS

Fossick-Goodman Swiss Teams—Lou was the liaison with Richard Zack. Jeanne Baseman will take over this role.

Summer STaC June 13-19—Mary reported that the ACBL has increased the fees to clubs by \$1 per table. Thus total fees will be going up to \$7 per table from the previous \$6.

Summer STaC Thursday June 16—Ruthie will work with Gus to get a director and a site.

Summer Sectional July 15-17—Bill said co-chairs are Sue McQuillan and Sharon Rohr. Flyers aren't out yet.

Publicity—Lorraine thinks we need to have a way to get information to outside media. Several names of bridge players who have experience with writing or publicity were mentioned. Lorraine will contact these players.

Representatives for D5 Meeting—The meeting is May 29 in Independence Ohio. Our unit is entitled to 4 voting representatives. Ron and Jane will attend. Ron will identify and appoint 2 other representatives.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be June 10, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Wilkins.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.