

LBA Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order by the president, Larry Federico. Present were Sherrie Goodman, Sid LeBlanc, Wayne Weisler, Jackie Madden, Lowen, Newt Jackson, Suzanne Cliffe, Jennifer Holmes, Kathy Logue, and Quin Bates.

The first order of business was to welcome new Board members Quinn Bates, Jennifer Holmes, Sid LeBlanc, and Kathy Logue.

The election of officers for the Board for the 2023 year were as follows:

President – Larry Federico

Vice President – Jackie Madden

Treasurer – Sid LeBlanc

Recording Secretary – Suzanne Cliffe

Membership Secretary – Sherrie Goodman

Quinn Bates volunteered to help with anything he could in membership.

The Minutes from the January meeting were approved as previously distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Sid gave the treasurer's report. He said he would present the 2023 Budget, the 2022 Profit and Loss, and January P & L at the February meeting. Sid also reported that our insurance went up from about \$15,000/year to about \$25,000 so he is trying to get quotes on other options.

After expenses, we made about \$368 on the January tournament although attendance was down.

For the past several years, the treasurer's job has been split between two people, one who does the budgets and profit and loss statements, the other to pick up money or receipts from the club, write checks, and pay bills. Newt Jackson said that he would be willing to take over that function.

Jim Thornton sent a report on the request for an appraisal of the building. He has an appraiser who will do it for \$1700. There was discussion as to the purpose of obtaining an appraisal. It is for information purposes only. Larry Federico has been approached by someone that has someone who might be interested in purchasing the building. Before responding to this inquiry, the Board thinks it would be good to look at options as to what the bridge club would do if the building were sold. Sid would like to look at the financial and legal issues involved. He has spoken with Steven Plotkin, a member of the LBA and an attorney as well as a retired judge, and they will have a meeting with Sid, Steve, Sherrie, and Larry to discuss the issues. Jennifer Holmes volunteered to be involved with this as well. The motion was made and seconded to hire the appraiser. The Board approved. Jim will follow up on this. Sid also thought we should look into where we would go as a club if the building were sold. Suzanne said she would talk to an agent(s) to see what options there are for a building that would meet our needs.

Club Manager's Report: Sherrie Goodman has to file for sanctions for the special games for the year. The Board voted not to have a Saturday Swiss because of poor

attendance. The next "chat game" will be held on Monday, February 13 after the morning game.

There are requests to make Wednesday an open game. It has been running about 6-7 tables as a 0-750 game. Newt said that there are a few that will graduate from that game soon so it could experience a drop. Currently the game is an "Open" game when it is designated a special game, such as STaC week or Club Championship weeks. The Board voted to continue the Wednesday game as a 0-750 game except for the "special" designated games. Sherrie will have a list of the "special" games that will be coming up on Wednesdays and she will make sure that they are advertised as such.

There was a discussion of the Tuesday 299'er game in the afternoon and that will continue as a 299'er game. Open players will not be moved into this game. A motion passed that will guarantee this as a 299'er game at least through 2023.

Newt reported that Kathy Plauche has 42 people signed up for the new lessons that will be starting Thursday, January 12.

Sherrie brought up a discussion of the cost of having a national tournament director working at our local tournaments. There isn't much difference in costs between the different levels of ACBL directors but a significant savings could be made if we had a local director. The ACBL allows this but the number of masterpoints is less. We don't currently have a director that would be able to run a sectional tournament so we will continue with the ACBL directors at this time.

There is a fundraiser for our NABC that starts in the virtual club on January 30.

District 10 has a club newsletter that concentrates on "good" news from the clubs. It is being sent out to all members.

Sherrie would like our club to have a Tournament Coordinator who will go over all the duties of running a tournament with the tournament chairs. They would also post the flyers and send them to the surrounding clubs and make sure the sanctions are in place. Sherrie will get a list of duties for this person.

Maintenance and Janitorial: Jackie reported that she had the club fogged for four nights last week during the tournament.

Wayne reported that he was still working on getting information and costs for a camera system.

Larry reported that the power to the building will be turned off tomorrow, Tuesday, January 10, for work to be done. It will be turned on by 9:00. Larry also reported that we have major structural problems on the parking lot side of the building as well as rotten wood in the front supply closet. These aren't things that we will work on now.

NABC meeting on January 4:

Jackie reported that the vaccination requirement is still in effect at this time.

It was determined that our players will get a 30% discount off long or short term parking. In addition, our club plans to offer coupons to our players to help with the cost of parking.

There is a link on the ACBL website for partnership.

We will have a reception for Novice/Intermediate players possibly between sessions. We will also possibly have two breakfasts for the N/I players when there are speakers on the first week end. Dates of these are still to be determined.

The Registration Gift is an insulated bag with stickers, granola bars, hand sanitizers, and a restaurant guide. We will need volunteers to stuff bags on Wednesday, March 8 at the hotel. Larry said that it shouldn't be as hard as previously as the attendance at the Nationals has dropped considerably. We used to get 5000+ attendees and we are hoping for 3000 at this tournament. We also need volunteers to help take things to the hotel, all of the things for registration as well as the beads to be given out at the registration desk.

Volunteers will get \$10 vouchers for every hour they work that can be used for games and parking. The games will range from \$17-\$30, the \$30 games being the National events. Most of the games are \$20/session.

We are waiting on the cost to hang the banners in the playing area.

The club has an extra \$1000 that we are spending to subsidize the players vouchers and we are also adding an extra \$1.00 to the \$4.00 section top prizes, so they will be \$5.00.

We will receive \$20,000 from District 10 but any money not spent will be returned to the district.

Discussion of By-Laws: Our General Membership meeting held at the January tournament was not posted in advance of meeting. It should be announced 20 days prior to the meeting. It was suggested that we hold a meeting at the July Sectional, 2023 this year to comply with the By-laws.

Lowen recommended that we look at and make necessary changes to our by-laws by that time so that they can be voted on at that meeting.

There is an ongoing discussion as to what would be required to make our unit a 501 C-3 corporation. Sid will talk with Jennifer about this.

Discussion as to whether we should cancel our May tournament. It follows closely after our NABC, it is difficult to get hotel rooms because of conflict with JazzFest, and attendance has been down. No decision was made to cancel.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55. The next meeting will be Monday, February 13, at 4:00 p.m.


Suzanne Cliffe
Recording Secretary