

Minutes, LBA Board Meeting, August 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order by the president, Linda Freese, at 2:30 p.m. Present were Linda, Lowen, Nelson Daigle, Carolyn Dubois, Hunter McFadden, Wayne Weisler, Mary LeBlanc, Suzanne Cliffe, Ellen Lappa, and Steve Plotkin. Absent: Sharon Henry.

The first order of business was a discussion of holiday parties: It was decided that we would get someone to work in the kitchen when possible for the holiday parties, Labor Day being the next one. Mary LeBlanc will be in charge of it. There was a discussion of the Halloween party which has usually been held. In discussing it, the Board realized that our November tournament this year starts on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, the day after Halloween. It would be very difficult to have a special party the night before a tournament starts primarily from a logistics stand point, set up, food in the refrigerator, and clean up, and then setting up for the tournament the next morning. It was voted to cancel the Halloween party this year. It will be announced in the Kibitzer and also notices will be put up in the club. The evening Christmas/Holiday party will be held on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Suzanne Cliffe and Doris Liukkonen will be in charge of it. The day time Christmas/Holiday party will be on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and has yet to be assigned. Suzanne announced that the 299'er tournament scheduled for October 11-13, will be chaired by Allison Vitter and Susan Martin.

Vicki Willis our District 10 representative was present to announce that the Grand National Team event which had been scheduled for Tunica has been cancelled and will be held in Jackson, MS on January 20, 2019.

Jim Thornton was present in order to give an update on the Non-Life Master Regional Tournament. The flyers have been published and sent to all units in the southeastern US that have NLM events. Flyers were taken and distributed at the NABC in Atlanta. The ACBL has assigned Kevin Perkins as lead director. Jack Lewis will be the Tournament Assistant. Larry Federico and Sharon Henry have started some education IMP scoring on the 299'er side, Sharon ran a Tuesday 299'er game as a Swiss team event. The "hand out" will be an embroidered self-stick replica of a streetcar. Jim said that for future planning that we can host a NLM sectional every 2 years which could be held in conjunction with one of our regularly scheduled sectionals. The total number of tables could be added to the number of tables in the sectional which would increase the total number of masterpoints available. The concern would be the space needed and whether our club could accommodate the increased tables.

The minutes from the July meeting were accepted as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Mary distributed the Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet as of July 31, 2018. She also distributed the income and expenses from the Wes Busby Tournament held in July. The net income from the tournament was \$2,078.25. There was discussion as to the difference in income between the July and May tournaments, and most of the difference seemed to be attributed to approximately 50 fewer tables in July than May. Mary also made a recommendation to move \$10,000 from a maturing CD and \$15,000 from the checking account to the money market fund at Vanguard in order to realize some interest income. That was approved by the Board. Mary also brought up the question of whether we were going to increase table fees in order to pay for hospitality for the NLM. This decision will be postponed until after NLM committee does some fund raising to determine how much will be needed. It has been suggested that there will need to be approximately \$3000 to pay for the hospitality.

Linda brought up that in the minutes from June, 2017, it was stated that the club would no longer give out medals for the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards. It is thought that the Novice/Intermediate players like the medals, but the open players aren't interested. It is not possible to purchase only certain levels of medals. It was suggested that we should know how much the medals cost before making a decision.

Lowen opened a discussion on whether the Club Manager should come to the meetings. He thinks that since so much of what affects the Board decisions is knowledge of the workings of the club that the manager should attend the meetings. It was thought that the Club Manager should attend the beginning of the monthly Board meetings with a presentation of the month's activities and be available to answer questions from the Board. There was also a discussion as to what the duties of the Club Manager are and Linda had a book of the duties available. Wayne volunteered to speak with the current Club Manager, Sherrie Goodman, regarding her duties and responsibilities.

There was additional discussion on problems with the computers. It was suggested that many of the problems develop from people using the computers for uses other than running the games. It was also suggested that we need to be able to call on someone to fix the problems as soon as they occur rather than having to wait. Currently most of the problems can be fixed by the Club Manager or a tech support person that has worked on the computers previously. The directors have been instructed not to use the computers for anything other than running games and no one else will be allowed to use the computers.

Linda had a report from the air conditioning company that has recently worked on the units that there are puddles of water on the roof because the units do not have drain lines. It will cost \$800 to fix this. This was approved.

Lowen presented a letter from the Slidell club with signatures of 40 people asking that our limited masterpoint tournaments as well as our lower stratification in our open tournaments be changed from 299 masterpoints to 499 masterpoints, the current number of points required to become a Life Master. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to increase our tournament levels for the novice/intermediate level from 299 to 499 masterpoints, and only non-life masters. The October, 2018 N/I tournament will be our last 299'er. Starting in November the lower stratification will be 499 masterpoints.

Linda reported on her latest conversations and reports regarding the structure of the building and what needs to be fixed. It was suggested that in order to determine if the problem is ongoing or if it is stable, that an engineer can take measurements over time and determine if there is movement. She has spoken with 3 different structural engineers and will request proposals from them as to what this will cost.

Insurance discussion: Hunter said that our current liability insurance is for \$2,000,000. There was discussion as to whether this is adequate. There was also discussion as to how much building insurance is necessary for replacement value. The current insurance limit is \$500,000 which complies with the co-insurance percentage of 80% of value, using values recommended by the agent for Gallagher at the last renewal on 2/14/18. Hunter will discuss this with Sid LeBlanc who handles the insurance and report at the next meeting. Hunter also noted that there is no business interruption coverage.

Ethics and Disciplinary committee: Lowen said that he had received the file from previous actions taken by the committee. The Zero Tolerance policy has been published in the Kibitzer and sent out to all of the directors. Lowen has addressed the complaints received last month and reported that he had now spoken to the people involved. He said that if any action is taken beyond a warning it will be announced at the Board meeting. Linda has composed a complaint form that will be available at all time at the directors' desk. The Committee members consist of Lowen, Wayne Weisler, Larry Federico, John Federico, Eleanor Onstott, Ellen Lappa, and Joan Van Geffen. Wayne had a letter from a novice player complaining that someone had accused them of cheating when their hand was on the dummy. It was determined that this is a matter of education and must be addressed to all players as to dummy's rights and responsibilities.

Ellen Lappa reported that the Nominated Committee has 4 people at this time that will be running for the 3 seats that will be available on the Board in January. The Willingness to Serve Form will be posted in the Club soon.

New Easybridge! will be starting in September with Elizabeth Sewell doing the morning game on Wednesdays and Wayne Weisler doing the evening class on Monday nights.

Carolyn Dubois reported that she has been speaking with Jani-Clean about their cleaning responsibilities. She had the name of another company that had been passed on to her but there is no recommendation. She also presented a proposal from Theresa Ruiz to thoroughly clean and organize the kitchen. This was approved by the Board.

The vending machines have been replaced and the coffee machines will be replaced in 2 weeks. Mary said that the vending machine company has requested that the club fill out a W-9 form in order to receive the rebate from the vending machine company. She is concerned that this could affect our non-profit status. Several people on the Board don't think that the amount in question will be adequate to cause any concern.

Kudos to our Advertising committee regarding an article in The Advocate touting our game and club. Also, flyers were made to be passed out regarding the new Easybridge! classes.

Suggestion Box: A letter was read concerning the actions of a player in the open game. Steve said that complaints had been made previously to the Board regarding this player. He said that he would formulate a response to the letter and address the problem.

Lowen said that he will be out of town until September 11<sup>th</sup> and then will be having surgery so he will be missing the next 2 meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.