

Louisiana Bridge Association
Board of Directors Meeting
July 13, 2020

The meeting was held via Zoom at approximately 4:10 called to order by the President, Carolyn Dubois. In addition, the following Board members were present: Jim Thornton, Steve Romig, Mary LeBlanc, Suzanne Cliffe, Lowen, Theresa Federico, Ellen Lappa, Diana Powell, and Hunter McFadden, and Club Manager, Sherrie Goodman. Absent was Jackie Madden. The minutes from the April meeting, the last Board meeting held with a quorum, were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Steve Romig presented the income statement for year to date. Based on that the club is about \$1700 ahead of last year. Hunter pointed out that last year we actually had more income but that we expensed the cost of the carpet and improvements. Steve said that if the rate of online plays continues even without tournament income that the club should be on financially stable ground. Steve needed Board approval to pay the taxes on investment income which was voted on and approved. Hunter commented that the club's investments in the Vanguard fund were split between "A" ratings and "BBB" ratings. The Board agreed that this was fine. Hunter additionally commented that since his term as a member of the Board of Directors expires at the end of the year, that the Board will want to consider who will be supervising our insurance needs. Hunter said that he will be glad to assist.

Mary LeBlanc sent out information on the air filter systems she had been researching and there was discussion of the benefits of the systems and what they actually do. Ellen commented that they wouldn't clean the virus from the air in the club and that they seemed to have limited value. The consensus of the Board is to wait until the Club is closer to an opening date and revisit the issue. There was a committee appointed to follow up on this when needed consisting of Mary, Jim Thornton, Ellen Lappa, and Steve Romig. Also included in building maintenance discussion is the need for a new toilet in the ladies room but that can wait also until the club is closer to reopening. Mary also said that upon checking after some recent heavy rains, the windows that were caulked all seemed dry and secure.

Hunter discussed the Business Interruption Insurance that the club has has a virus exclusion. He filed a claim anyway. It was discussed that when the club reopens that the players/participants should be required to sign a "Hold Harmless" release. This will be discussed when the club is closer to reopening.

Sherrie gave a report regarding the virtual clubs. She said that the night games are problematic, that they frequently don't make. The Saturday games can vary from a few tables to a much larger game, that it is an unknown. She attends virtual round tables of other clubs and she said that 87% are definitely planning on staying closed in 2020 and 85% of the clubs will plan on keeping the virtual games going when they do reopen. She said that national events

will be held at the end of the month as well as another week long event will be held but she doesn't know what the awards will be at that time.

Sherrie also reported that the directors are technically working for BBO and ACBL and they send the money to the virtual clubs who basically just distribute the money to the various directors. The directors will be asked to sign something regarding this.

Carolyn thinks that the club should prepare for reopening by investigating plexiglass dividers, and dealing machines. Steve said that he doesn't think that there is any way that the club can anticipate reopening at this time as did Diana. Lowen said that he has done some research on the dividers but that he also thinks that it is too early to consider this.

There is discussion as to Board of Directors elections which would normally be held at our January tournament. Carolyn said that she has ACBL guidelines that she will send out regarding this. The LBA has in its By-laws that there will be no absentee voting. Suzanne said that she will look at the recommendations and discuss at the next Board meeting.

Mary reported that we have a contractual obligation to Refreshment Solutions of \$135/quarter for the rental of the vending machines which aren't being used by our empty club. There was discussion of asking them to remove the machines. Suzanne suggested that we talk to them and ask if we could reduce our payments at this time perhaps by half and then revisit this closer to the end of the year when we might have a better idea as to a reopening date. The coffee has been suspended and the garbage pick up has been canceled. Theresa indicated that someone is parking a large truck in our lot, Jim will talk to them about it.

Lowen inquired about adding a 99'er game to the schedule. He said that he had several players that were interested. Sherrie said that she will add games if there are players to play in them. He will provide Sherrie a list of players that will play in them.

Sherrie would like to provide a new platform for a class and game for new players. There is a way of setting up lessons and games for brand new players that will allow them to play boards in a short, sanctioned game almost immediately. This is designed for brand new duplicate players. Carolyn would like to set up new Easybridge lessons and wants to be included in the planning.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.

Suzanne Cliffe, Recording Secretary