

Louisiana Bridge Association
Board of Directors Meeting
September 28, 2020

The meeting began at 4:15. It had been postponed from the second Monday of the month due to storm preparations on that date. Present were Carolyn Dubois, Jim Thornton, Mary LeBlanc, Steve Romig, Suzanne Cliffe, Lowen, Diana Powell, Theresa Federico, and Hunter McFadden. Jackie Madden and Ellen Lappa were absent.

The minutes of the August meeting were accepted as had been sent out prior to the meeting.

Steve Romig and Mary LeBlanc gave a report on the club financials as of year to date. After payout of expenses to directors and amortization of projected monthly expenses, they think that the club is about on track to break even with the income from last year. While we haven't had tournaments for the additional income, the income from the virtual club has been steady. Year to date the club has made approximately \$20,000 from the income from the virtual club. There was a \$3480 expense to pay the directors to make up for their additional expenses of their receiving 1099's for their jobs. Steve projects that our net income is \$25-30,000. Last year, at this time, the net income before the decorating expenses was about \$26,000. He also reported that all of the game directors have returned their 1099 information. The Board accepted the financial information as presented.

Mary reported that the termite contract is renewable on Oct. 22. We have now cancelled any payment to Refreshment Solutions. Carolyn reported that there is a fan in the playing area that has a short. She will look into having that fixed. Carolyn reported that the coffee machine is still on and the Board recommended that the next person to go to the club turn it off.

Lowen reported that the By Law Committee has met and that they are reviewing the current by laws. At this time there is no report.

Carolyn recommended that we form a committee to start looking at when the club will reopen and what needs to be done for that to happen. She wants a survey sent to players to ask their opinions as to when and if they would return. It was suggested that Jackie Madden be on the committee to coordinate with Jefferson Parish rules and regulations.

There was a discussion as to who is the back up for many of the jobs that our Club Manager does, such as sending out emails to the club members and who has the ability to log into our club email and Pianola accounts, as well as all of the other jobs that are part of running the club in normal times. There is a list of all of these jobs in the club taped to the inside of the cabinet door on the "open" end of the room. Carolyn will get it and send out a copy. She will also talk to Ellen Lappa as the web site coordinator to see if she is also able to send out emails when a back up is needed.

There was a discussion as to the legal opinion that Hunter got from John Weiler of Weiler & Rees regarding the status of our game directors for tax reporting. Hunter sent a request for payment of Mr. Weiler since Hunter had not gotten approval prior to contracting with Mr. Weiler for the opinion. It was questioned as to how it was that Hunter had proceeded on this without Board approval. Hunter reported that he and Steve discussed it and thought that it was necessary in order to proceed with the pay for the directors for the online games. Hunter knew Mr. Weiler who agreed to do the work for him and he approved it. Mr. Weiler provided what appears to be a very thorough analysis of the situation, whether directors are independent contractors or employees, and whether they should have 1099's as an independent contractor or a W-2 as an employee. He also did this work at a reasonable rate. The Board approved the payment of the bill but in the future it is necessary to get an approval of the Board before entering into such an agreement for work for the club.

Mary reported that JaniKing will work for free to sanitize the building when we are ready to open up.

Carolyn reported that she gave two free plays to Gary Bergeron who went into the club to clean out the refrigerators.

Theresa reported that she had cleaned and sanitized many of the bid boxes which are currently in the hall storage closet.

There was a discussion of behavior of some players. It seems that there is an issue of some players, Board members, and game directors who have been called by a player/players about things they don't like. It is thought that since this has happened more than once that this is an issue and someone should speak with them should it occur again. Carolyn will speak to Sherrie about it and they will address it.

There was also a discussion of the action taken by the ACBL against members Steve and Janice Kishner regarding questions of ethics when playing online. This was addressed by the ACBL and no action needs to be taken by our club. Lowen has forwarded the information to Eleanor Onstott as Ethics chairperson for recordation.

There will be no meeting in October. The next meeting is scheduled for November 9th after the 2:00 p.m. game.

Submitted by

Suzanne Cliffe
Recording Secretary