

Louisiana Bridge Association
Board of Directors Meeting
December 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 4:20. Present were Carolyn Dubois, Steve Romig, Jim Thornton, Diana Powell, Theresa Federico, Jackie Madden, Lowen, Ellen Lappa, Suzanne Cliffe and Club Manager, Sherrie Goodman. Mary LeBlanc “zoomed” in about 4:40. Absent was Hunter McFadden.

The amended minutes from the November meeting were accepted.

Steve Romig gave the treasurer’s report. He said that the year to date net income is approximately \$39,900. He projects that the net income for the year will be in the \$35,000-\$40,000 range. He also reported that our insurance for next year is projected to increase. Sherrie questioned why our Entergy bill is almost as high as it was prior to the shut down. It seems that the club has been running all of its systems at the same rate as before. Those will be adjusted.

Sherrie Goodman reported on the Virtual Club games. Voice chat has now been activated so that people at a table will be able to chat with each other. It doesn’t pick up everything said, the computer speaks what has been written. They are anticipating that video will be available next year. Sunday Swiss Teams will be coming soon when payment options are set up.

Sherrie also reported on the lessons that Kathy Plauche has been giving. She is getting close to moving the people into a 0-20 game after the first of the year. Memphis has a class like ours and they will participate in the 0-20 games. Sherrie would like the 0-20 games to be at the same time as existing games so that we don’t incur additional director expenses.

Sherrie also wants our Public Relations Committee (Jennifer Holmes, Henry Bodenheimer) to work on a plan for attracting new members and new students to the club. Sherrie said that our membership is dropping monthly. Carolyn said that she would work with the PR Committee on this.

Sherrie also reported that there will be another “Silver Lining” week in January when players will receive extra points and silver points.

Sherrie asked about the Holiday Bonus that we have paid our game directors in previous years. The Board said that it should continue the same as previously. Mary questioned about the directors that are not directing online but were directing prior to the shut down. The Board approved that those directors would receive half of the amount paid to the “virtual” directors.

Sherrie reported that John Liuukonen had resigned as editor of the Kibitzer. Diana Powell has said that she is willing to take on the job with help from Sherrie. Big thanks to Diana!

Carolyn reported that Hunter McFadden submitted his resignation from the Board. His term was set to expire at the time of the election in 2021 for new members. In accordance with our By-Laws, the Board was required to appoint a new member to fill

the remainder of Hunter's term. (Since we won't have an election in January, the exact date of the term is undetermined at this time.) After discussion as to whom to appoint, the Board voted to ask Vicki Willis if she would be willing to fulfill Hunter's term. When Vicki was asked, she agreed to fill in once again.

Lowen reported on the By-Laws Committee. They have met and have been working recommendations for changes. The current By-Laws are posted on our web site. They would like to set up a January date for a meeting separate from the Board meeting to consider their recommendations. Lowen said that he will send the document with changes prior to that meeting. It was agreed that Monday, January 25th at 4:15 was the target date for the By-Laws meeting. At the time it is sent, since it is a work in progress, he asks that it not be distributed to the general membership.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2021, at 4:15.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Submitted by Suzanne Cliffe
Recording Secretary