Louisiana Bridge Association
Minutes of Board Meeting February 19, 2024

The meeting was called to order by the Vice President Vicki Willis. Present were Larry Federico, Newt Jackson, Sid Leblanc, Kathy Logue, Sherrie Goodman, Vicki Willis, Wayne Weisler, Mike Russell, Jennifer Holmes and Quin Bates. Absent was President Keenan Romig due to Covid.

Minutes
Minutes of the January Board Meeting were accepted.

Financial Report
Sid advised that the last tournament netted a profit of $2,000 as opposed to the $1,000 Estimated previously. The club is in a good financial position with the donation from John Onstott and the revenue from investments. Lawn maintenance fees increased from $50.00 to $75.00. Insurance was $25,000 last year and will remain the same for this year. Our Surety bond is $75,000.
We expect to lose about $13,000.00 for the year excluding deferred maintenance. Given our financial situation, that is fine. John Hurley, a CPA and club member, reported on the results of the limited scope audit he conducted. No issues were detected. A decision to create a Finance Committee was deterred due to the absence of the board President. This will be discussed at the next board meeting. Jim Thornton is handling the credit card transition to a new company and should have a report in March.

Maintenance
Newt Jackson reported that the Deferred Maintenance Committee has identified 6 repairs for investigation.
1. Back room repair – termite damage and possible water and other damage.
2. Front Door Repair – due to subsidence there are gaps between the doors and frames
3. Electrical Repairs—repairs identified by Access Services during check on 11/21/23, wiring between phone denmark near entrance over to computer location, possible other issues tbd.
4. Thermostat and fan repairs
5. Air Conditioning repairs
6. Damage between windows and base of wall
Committee agreed to pursue quotes for the first 3 items as these were the most expedient.
Most important is electrical repairs and the committee is receiving quotes for the 3 most important identified with electrical repairs taking priority. Hopefully quotes will be presented at the next board meeting in order to move forward with electrical repairs.
Larry Federico stated that we have 6 air conditioning units, one of which is not functional. The others are very old and will not be able to handle the 100 degree summers that we have been experiencing. It is suggested that we look into replacing one of the units on the roof sooner than later as it will be much more expensive to replace in the summer on an emergency basis.

Club Managers Report
Saturday March 2 will offer double points with half red and half black. Monday March 11 is ACBL wide Senior Pairs game and will start at 12 noon. March 18-23 will be club championship games offering double points with no extra fee. ACBL Charity game is March 23. GNT Swiss games will be on line Thursday and Sunday in February.
Hendersonville has joined our consortium for our virtual club and we are negotiating with Lake Charles at this time. Mar 5-8 is an ACBL on Line Regional.
Mike Russell is tracking our club games and we are growing. Still #5 in the nation. Mary Belcher is now handling our website and Erin O’Sullivan has taken charge of Tournament Sanctions.
Huntsville has agreed to co-chair a Regional in March 2025. Hopefully it can be held at the club to avoid committing to a certain number of hotel rooms.

District Report
1. Shreveport will have a 3 day Open Regional June 26 – 28.
2. New advisory committee member is Melinda Voorhies (Lafayette).
3. Sherrie Kinkoff (Hattiesburg) has volunteered to handle District 10 newsletter.
4. Jerry Burford has been working with the ACBL to get a 4th STAC game scheduled and approved for 2024.
 a. There will be no hand records, shuffle and deal.
 b. There will be a regular STAC game in February and a Royal STAC game in June.
 c. There is a 5 table rule in force, fewer than 5 tables will be combined in a separate action.
 d. The directors will be eligible for overall awards.
5. There will be additional initiatives from ACBL to attract new members and retain existing members. It is the responsibility of the clubs to take action on this.
6. There is an area on the District 10 website for comments where clubs could share ideas or concerns with each other.
7. Jim Daugherty is the new Webmaster.
8. We need to make sure all ACBL members have current email addresses at ACBL.
9. A split Regional is to be held with Metairie and Huntsville. Metairie is planning to host this regional in house as our club is able to accommodate 62 tables.

Publicity
8 is enough is coming Mar. 9 and Jennifer has requested names of team members captained by board members. Entries for cartoon contest have been received and winner to be announced soon. Louise Saik is working to bring an Open game to Wed morning in March. Cost is only $5.00 for the first month. Members are encouraged to bring lunch and dessert will be provided. On March 27 Sherrie Goodman will be providing lunch. Carolyn Dubois will again Chair the Longest Day and has suggested that we put out a bucket for change – all proceeds will go to Alzheimer’s.

Unfinished Business
There will be a change authorization for signing checks due to the change in board members. The bank will be requested to remove Jackie Madden, Suzanne Cliff and Jim Thornton and replace authorization with Kathy Logue - Recording Secretary and Keenan Romig – President and Vicki Willis – Vice President. The board agreed to keep Larry Federico as a signee on the account.
Vicki Willis advised that the memorial plaque is very out of date and needs to be replaced. This will be a very costly endeavor and the board decided to discontinue replacing the plaque. The Kibitzer as well as our website keeps us informed of members passing.
The board agreed that compensation for making boards should be based on the number of boards requested and not the number of boards used. Sherrie and Mike will address. Derby Day Tournament will make Swiss teams on Thursday and Open pairs on Saturday to include our 0-20 players in the Derby Day festivities. 0-20 games will be offered in the morning on Thurs and Friday and the afternoon on Saturday for them to enjoy the Derby. The Saturday pair game will start at 2:15 so that it will finish just in time to watch the Derby.
Wayne Weisler will provide us with a new email address for board business only as soon as it is set up with the assistance of Jennifer Holmes.
Cameras were installed and record 1 month after which it automatically replenishes.

Suggestion Box
Due to noise created from games starting at staggered time, it was suggested that the sound board (divider) be put up at 12:30 and the line for entries be moved to along the coffee machine rather that going out the door.
Name tags should be offered to all for purchase so that players can become more familiar with names of fellow players. Jennifer will coordinate process for offering name tags and will provide update at next meeting. It was suggested that boards be made to apply to the lesson being taught. This can only be possible for games not using Common Game files.
The timeliness of the Wednesday 0-750 game was brought up as an issue. Sherrie, now in charge of directors, will address.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm

Kathy Logue

Recording Secretary