LBA Board of Directors Meeting

June 7, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by the president, Carolyn Dubois with a short welcoming statement. Present, via Zoom, were Carolyn, Jim Thornton, Ellen Lappa, Theresa Federico, Diana Powell, Suzanne Cliffe, Vicki Willis, Mary LeBlanc, Lowen, and Sherrie Goodman, Club Manager. Absent were Steve Romig and Jackie Madden.

The first order of business were the minutes from the meeting held on May 10, 2021. It was agreed that the minutes were correct as of the meeting and were accepted as such. There were changes after the meeting when the Reopening Committee met.

Changes that occurred after the meeting were the dates for reopening. The Reopening Committee, in consultation with our Club Manager and Virtual Club Manager, Sherrie, agreed that the date for the first game should be changed to Wednesday, June 16 at 9:30 a.m. This is the game that has the lightest attendance online, so it was specifically picked as a good date to start the face to face games.

Sherrie also said that initially our club will not hold virtual games at the same time as we hold face to face games. The ACBL is meeting to decide if this policy will continue and we will make decisions in the future as to days and time, depending on ACBL policy, and our player feedback. Sherrie also said that reservations by players will not be necessary.

As part of reopening, Carolyn announced that JaniKing will be cleaning on Wednesday morning before the game, then Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings after the games. No one else will be in the building between games. The club will be closed immediately after the games. There will be no lessons given in the building at this time.

The Finance Report previously distributed was accepted.

Sherrie reported on both the virtual club and the face to face club games. This week is the North American Pairs qualifying games online. At the face to face games, the first two weeks will be double points for all games. There are lots of special games, but will save them until we can’t tap into other extra points games. The Longest Day Games will be online on June 19 and 20th. The Face to Face Longest Day will be on Friday, June 25. The cost to the player will be $10 and they can pay more if they want to. It will be a single session and pay double points. All proceeds will be paid to Alzheimer’s Association.

The dates for the Online Endless Summer games are June 24-27, Gold Week games are July 26- August 1, and the NAOBC dates are July 15-26.

We have the 7th largest online bridge club in the country.

Sherrie said that when the online virtual club games compete with the face to face games, the extra points for the virtual club games will go away. Lowen asked if the virtual club games run at the same time as the face to face games whether the Face to Face game would get credit for the online players, which boosts the masterpoints awarded. Sherrie didn’t know but will look into it. The Saturday game, which is a single section Open game, will get credit for the online limited masterpoint game that will be in the afternoon.

Mary reported on maintenance. She is having the air conditioning maintenance done. The Purell dispensers have been installed. The pest control company came, we have had rodents and weevils, but that should be “cured” now.

Mary is ordering the paper products in the future.

Theresa inquired as to our next tournament. Currently we have a tournament scheduled for November. It was recommended that this tournament be dropped as, according to our by-laws, we would have to hold an election for new members of the Board at that time, for a 2 month term. The Board agreed that the first tournament should be held in January, as well as the election of new Board members.

Diana had questions regarding the club’s policy on food currently. It was agreed that there would be no eating at the tables, before, during, or after a game. If anyone brings in food, it may not be shared or eaten at the tables. All beverages must be in a closed container. There will not be coffee made. Anything that a player wants must be in a closed container, no cans are allowed.

Suzanne reported that there are 4 game directors that will work in the Face to Face games, Sue Himel, Kathy Logue, Wayne Weisler, and Lil Range. Kathy, Sue, and Wayne will rotate the games between them with Lil as a back up. Sherrie is also able to be a back up director if needed. If there is a game that cannot get a director, it will have to be cancelled. The number of boards played will probably be shortened by the director to 24 boards, as it is thought that many of the players enjoy the shorter games online. We will not be running a web at this time, which will cut down on the number of board sets required. The directors will be paid by check, on a time schedule to be worked out with the directors and the treasurer.

Payment for the games: It has been recommended that the payment for the games be made by credit card or check so that the directors do not need to handle cash. Jim Thornton researched the option and reported that the cost of a credit machine to the club is $600+ to purchase or $35.00/month to rent and approximately 2.5% charge on each transaction. It was agreed to move forward with obtaining and installing the credit card capability. There was a question as to what we would do about the “Grand Slam Wednesday” when players put money in the “pot” to be paid out to Grand Slam winners. This was not resolved at the end of the meeting.

Carolyn said that she would make a short announcement at the beginning of the game to welcome everyone and point out the garden that has been installed and the inside plants with the money collected in a memorial fund remembering Sharon Henry.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 12.

Suzanne Cliffe

Recording Secretary