

## Minutes of LBA Board Meeting- July 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 2:22 pm by Keenan Romig. Present were Keenan Romig, Larry Federico, Newt Jackson, Mike Russell, Sherrie Goodman, Vicki Willis, Quin Bates, Wayne Weisler and Sid Leblanc. Absent were Jennifer Holmes and Kathy Logue.

The June minutes were approved.

Sid LeBlanc presented the financial report. The club is financially sound due to our investments and equity and continues to see increased F2F participation/revenue. Sid commended Newt on his work in transitioning to the Positive Pay system at the bank which should prevent any possible fraudulent activity in the future. Zelle payments were discussed, particularly for those out-of-town directors who are paid by regular mail. It was suggested that Newt ask our contact at Gulf South Bank if Zelle payments are possible for us as a business and under the Positive Pay system.

Newt Jackson reported that the installation of the new air conditioners has been completed. The fourth unit where repairs were authorized is currently functioning for some unknown period and Newt pointed out that there is a six-week lead time if we decide at some point to replace that old unit when it fails. In view of the fact that the ailing unit is responsible for the restrooms, kitchen, and director station area, it was determined that replacement should be authorized. A motion was made and carried (one negative vote) to take steps to immediately replace that unit. The cost will be roughly \$20,000 due to the unit needed and duct work required. Newt also reported that we are finally able to do the electrical work with Access with the decision to close the club on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Sherrie Goodman reported that we have been designated to hold a National tournament in Fall 2029. No additional information is known at this time. She is also requesting that we hold another Regional in 2027 and get back in rotation for doing so on a regular basis. The April 2025 Regional is confirmed to be held at Copeland Tower and she and Jim Thornton are negotiating for their Comfort Suites rooms at rates that will be honored during the French Quarter Festival (the weekend prior to our Monday to Friday Regional).

The Wes Busby Firecracker Sectional will be moved back two weeks in 2025 in order to have additional time to publicize the tournament after the Longest Day event. Exact dates to be determined: either Wednesday through Friday or Thursday through Saturday (July 16-19).

There was discussion regarding the shortcomings of the July tournament this year. Keenan stated that she will co-chair with Susan Beoubay in November and will work on updating the tournament guidelines now published which are very much out of date. A motion was made and carried unanimously to increase the Swiss Team price to \$120 per team to help defray food costs. An increased effort for tournament donations is needed in view of the escalating food costs.

Keenan also reported that Jennifer Holmes has agreed to chair the September I/N tournament and noted that there is very little information online about that. Sherrie furnished the schedule to ACBL earlier this year and will follow up to be sure that information is posted. Jennifer will be asked to create a poster for publication.

Sherrie noted that Saturday special games are not well attended and Keenan suggested that they be discontinued. Sherrie is requesting contacting lype if one plans to play in a Saturday special game, the

same policy we have instituted for the Wednesday Open game. The attendance for July NAP games will be reviewed.

Keenan requested that Sherrie and Vicki update the board on the current process for handling Conduct issues. They did so, explaining that incidents are now reported to District who decides whether the club needs to convene a panel of the offending member's peers to review the issue.

Chat game mentors for Monday July 15 were requested following the conclusion of the Open Game.

Keenan reported that Kathy Plauche is looking for assistance with the TV publicity and has suggested Jennifer Holmes.

Keenan also discussed putting together documentation for new board members to help in their transition to the board and to provide information with which all board members should be familiar. Mike Russell was asked to spearhead this project with assistance from Sid and Jennifer.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Keenan Romig/President for Kathy Logue/Recording Secretary