

LBA Board of Directors Meeting,
April 11, 2022

The president called the meeting to order at 4:05. Present were Larry Federico, president, Mary LeBlanc, Newt Jackson, Sherrie Goodman, Wayne Weisler, Lowen, Diana Powell, Jim Thornton, and Suzanne Cliffe. Jackie Madden arrived later.

Lowen reported that he had given the ACBL the dates for our upcoming sectional tournaments as 3 day tournaments. As to Derby Day, Sherrie has volunteered to make the mint julep slushies to be served on Saturday.

Mary Le Blanc: Financials

Sid did a new P & L. We missed 3 payments to ACBL last year so now we will have a large charge to make up for that \$6000.

Building insurance gone up. We have received \$262,000 paid out on Ida damage. We have paid out \$201,000. We still have about \$61,000 which is being withheld until we can verify that the work has been done correctly.

Larry will look into the coffee contract which was signed for 5 years although it was only approved by the Board for 1 year. People have reported that the snacks in the machine are frequently stale.

We are trying to get a partial refund of \$700 on the gas bill due to gas leaks that have now been repaired. Larry needs plumbing and gas bills.

Financials approved.

Maintenance: Wayne reported that work on the roof is ongoing. The plumbing is being fixed. He has ordered a steel cabinet for Boards and Materials to take the place of the current cabinet in the main playing area. It has been requested that he lock the back gate through the fence since we aren't using the parking lot at the store behind us. Larry asked that since the sheetrock has been finished, if the air conditioning filters can be changed. Mary said that she has the filters.

Club Manager: Sherrie reported that the Charity Games being held through the ACBL will be for the benefit of Ukraine. The ACBL will donate the money raised through appropriate channels.

Linda Freese has volunteered to chair the Alzheimer's Game in June.

Kathy Plauche has a new beginner class starting April 21. The students will pay \$50 for a 10 week series. Kathy is being paid by the club \$90/lesson plus expenses. Monday morning game at 9:00 is a 0-50 game. She is being paid \$60/game for that game. She has requested a smart tv for the Board Room so that she can teach her lessons there. This request has been approved by the Board and will be for use of all the teachers. Sherrie will work on internet that will work in the back room and a television which will work for Derby Day.

Sherrie reported that if we want to advertise our upcoming March 2023 NABC in the Bridge Bulletin that it would cost us \$1660 for a full page ad. At this time we are not planning on doing that.

Sherrie also reported that during the “play for Free” promotion held in March for players that hadn’t played since the shut down for Covid, there were about 10 new players that came.

Wayne brought up the question of opening the Monday morning 9:30 game to all players with no masterpoint limits. This was approved for the next game on April 18 and going forward. Sherrie will send out a notice immediately.

There was additional discussion of the time for the afternoon games. The Tuesday game has been moved from 1:00 to 12:30 start time, and this has not caused a problem with the online games. With the later start time, in order to get out, the games should be 21 to 24 boards. If they start on time, people should be out in 3 hours.

NABC report: Larry said that a site visit by the ACBL has been confirmed for June 14. He is still trying to get a chairperson for the Fund Raising to sell the event names.

Jim has been talking with the Bank representative regarding the credit card charges. There were some overcharges due to errors made by directors as to the amount of money charged to a player for a game. Those were corrected but if not within the time limit we still incurred transaction fees which are not refundable. Based on the current table count it will cost us about \$3000/year to take credit cards at the 2 ½% charge. There is also a monthly rental of \$21.74/month for the machines. We will continue the current system to determine if charges normalize and will look at it again next month.

By-Laws: Lowen said that the recommended changes to the By-Laws had been sent to all members. The one that the committee would like to see approved has to do with the way members are able to cast their votes for members of the Board of Directors. There was discussion that we could call a special meeting of the membership in conjunction with our July tournament to address this specific need. It was mentioned that we hire an outside vendor to collect the votes. This would cost the club several hundred dollars everytime we utilized their services. Sherrie and Jim will investigate what we need to do to use Google Documents for voting which is a free source. The Board has recommended that the special meeting be held on Friday, July 8, in the break between sessions of our Sectional Tournament which will be held at that time. In July, the membership needs to approve that the Unit allow for electronic voting in the future. After that is approved, Sherrie and Jim can investigate ways that it can be done and will report back to the Board.

Lowen reported that the remainder of the changes to the By-laws are just “language.”

As to tournaments, it was agreed by the Board that at this time and going forward our tournaments would be 3 day tournaments beginning on Thursday and ending on Saturday. Saturday will be a team game.

Larry said that he would like to move our November tournament to October. He will check with the ACBL to see if this is possible. Lowen said that we are currently sanctioned through 2024. He is going to talk with the ACBL to see if we can plan a

Regional Non Life Master tournament to coincide with one of our Sectional tournaments. He will look at tournaments after the NABC of March, 2023.

Larry would like the Board to be thinking about the subject of food/eating at the club. One consideration is the cleanliness of the players' hands when handling the cards and the potential damage done to the dealing machine.

There was a discussion and vote to replace Carolyn Dubois who resigned from the Board in March. Jennie Flynn Sauviac was selected to replace her until the next election is held in January, 2023.

Hurricane damage report: Jackie said that there is still missing flashing on the roof as well as standing water and live electrical wires which are not properly enclosed. There are also air conditioning problems. There are soft spots on the roof presumably from the standing water. The air conditioning repairman is writing a report. The roofers hired by the contractor will not respond to calls nor will they return. They have been paid, they failed to provide a performance bond. Jackie would like to get another roofer to provide an estimate. She also would like to have an electrician and plumber if necessary to give quotes on work involved. This was approved by the Board.

The next meeting will be the 2nd Monday of May, May 9, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Suzanne Cliffe
Recording Secretary