

Board of Director Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2013

ATTENDEES: Ron Kral, President
Leo Cardillo, Vice-President
Alan Dockterman, Secretary
Jim Gerding, Board Member
Lynne Beresford, Board Member
Ken Davis, Board Member
Sheryl McEwan, Board Member
Francesca Mazarella, Board Member
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Editor
Livingston Johnson, Unit Game Director
Howard Stevens, NVBA Member
Nancy Cartwright, NVBA Member
Fred Gramlich, NVBA Member
Marilynn Schuler, NVBA Member
Jerry Nolte, NVBA Member

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the October Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 8, 2013 at the Dolley Madison Library in McLean, VA.

Secretary's Report

The Board reviewed the minutes from the September Board of Directors' meeting, which with minor edits and upon the motion of Ken, seconded by Jim, were approved unanimously. Alan relayed information received from ACBL on changes in the status and number of members in the Unit from the prior month.

Treasurer's Report

1. Ann, who was absent from the meeting, submitted to the Board via e-mail the September financials, the Sectional worksheet, and the accounting for the Reston Regional. The final account contained \$2249.42: \$249.42 had been sent to MABC and the balance of \$2000 is to be carried over for the 2015 Regional. The sectional report indicated a profit of \$8025 excluding deductions for rental payments. Jim and Leo estimated the table count at 440.
2. Leo informed the Board that after Ann spoke with the CFO of the Northwest Federal Credit Union, he agreed to change the account for the Unit to business rather than one in individual names.

3. Ann reported that although the Board had agreed to add director's liability coverage to its insurance policy, the proposed coverage appeared unwise since ACBL had been providing comparable insurance. The decision will be reconsidered at the next meeting.

Bridge-In-Schools

1. Sheryl, the coordinator of the program, introduced four NVBA members who spoke concerning developments in their respective programs in various Fairfax County programs. She was joined by the President in thanking them for all their hard work teaching bridge to the students. She informed the Board that the program was considered one of the best in the country.

2. Sheryl asked that the teachers submit receipts in a timely manner so that the treasurer issues checks for reimbursements in the calendar year when expenses are incurred. She also requested that they furnish her the value of items donated so that a budget could be more accurately prepared. Four schools are now fully equipped at a cost of \$1500. She said the Budget Committee would likely set the budget for each school at \$600, even though it anticipated that many programs would not use the entire allocation.

3. From the presentations, it was apparent that the programs varied considerably in the age of the students, the level of maturity of the program, the number of volunteers, and the manner and time of instruction. Student participation in sectional and unit games was considered quite important in maintaining interest. The Board was amenable to paying ACBL dues for students, but thought such payments should only occur late in the school year to ensure that membership was given only to those students who had demonstrated real interest in the game.

Other Items of Business

1. Ron reported that the annual NVBA-WBL planning meeting on September 29, 2013 was a success. NVBA board members appreciated the opportunity to discuss duties and objectives with their counterparts at WBL.

2. Ron stated that The Budget Committee had recently met. The members expect to distribute a proposed budget to the Board prior to the November meeting for discussion, with the goal of its adoption at the December meeting.

3. Ron invited the members to view the new website which had been recently renovated by Joe Hertz. He introduced Howard Stevens as the new Education Chair for the Unit. He noted that NVBA needed to find a site for its unit game on September 28, 2014 since Beth El would be unavailable at that time. Discussion of candidates for the Dave Murray award was deferred until the next meeting.

4. Leo reported that Beth El was unwilling to lease additional space to the Unit for storage of its personal property, but he was pursuing the possibility of better configuration and additional file cabinets in the current space. The Board discussed whether a computer or a third clock should be purchased for the 199er game. The Board reviewed Ron's graph which showed that the average Unit game table count was about twenty-seven, which can be considered a break-even level. The trend in the 199er game has been increasing, while the trend in the BC game had been decreasing and in the A/X game had been decreasing even more. As a potential approach to increase attendance, the Board considered obtaining input from players regarding starting the Unit game at 7:30 rather than 7:00 given complaints about the difficulty of attending games due to traffic conditions.

5. The revised Policies and Procedures Manual will soon be posted. Lucy stated that she intended to send out requests to the current officers and committee chairs for their suggestions for revisions of their position descriptions.

6. The Board unanimously passed Ken's motion, seconded by Jim, to appoint Francesca Mazarella to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors. The members welcomed her to the Board.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The next board meeting was scheduled to be held on November 12, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. at the John Marshall Library in Alexandria, VA. NVBA members are invited to attend. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Dockterman, Secretary

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