

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2016

ATTENDEES: Ron Kral, President
Leo Cardillo, Vice President
Ann Atcheson, Treasurer
Jim Gerding, Board Member
David Lindley, Board Member
Francesca Mazarella, Board Member
Kevin O'Brien, Board Member

Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Chair
Margot Hennings, District 6 Director

Unable to attend: Donna Hickling, Susan Miskura

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the June 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 11:05 a.m. on June 19, 2016 at the Beth El Temple in Alexandria, VA.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes from the final draft submitted by Francesca.

District Director Presentation

NVBA President Ron Kral announced that this year's election for the District 6 position on the ACBL Board of Directors is a contested election. He explained the election process, that the NVBA Unit has a weighted vote because of the size of the Unit, and that the Board would invite both candidates – Margot Hennings and Mike Zane – to address the Board. Mike Zane will be invited to attend the July Board meeting. Then the Board will vote by written ballot at the August Board meeting. All votes must be in by September 15. Ron recommends, for those Board members unable to attend the August meeting, that they vote by absentee ballot.

Margot began by outlining her extensive experience running NVBA tournaments for 27 years, serving as President and Vice President and as an Executive Director on the NVBA Board for numerous terms, and serving two terms as District 6 Representative on the ACBL Board of Directors. She then spoke about the current state of the ACBL, some of the issues that the ACBL Board is grappling with, and noted that an ACBL Restructuring Committee has been formed. The Committee's work is expected to be finished before the next election for a D6 ACBL Board member in 2019. The ACBL Board may be of a different size/composition and may not meet in person as frequently in the future.

Margot enumerated what compensation each ACBL Board member currently receives.

The District Director or their first or second alternate are supposed to represent the District at the ACBL Board meetings held at NABCs three times a year. The attendee receives airfare to the playing site, a hotel room through the Saturday night of the meetings, whenever there is a Board of Governors meeting on Sunday. The attendee receives free plays for all events at the NABC, and the District Director receives a \$3,000 stipend to cover administrative costs connected to the duties of the position.

Margot will send each Board member a letter with specifics of what she has accomplished on the committees she has chaired and been a member of, and will outline what work still needs to be done.

Other Business raised by Margot:

Bridge Club and Bridge Teachers Lists: She needs a current listing of Washington area bridge clubs to provide to attendees of Bridge University and LearnBridgeInADay (LBIAD), as well as to have available on the general information table for all tournament attendees.

Kevin is assembling the list. It was recommended he notify WBL and MBA that we need their input by a certain deadline, and then, when the list is complete as possible, Kevin is asked to send the list to Margot, Ron, Susan and Lucy. Kevin is also assembling a current list of NVBA teachers to have available to I/N players at the NABC.

NVBA Day at the Washington NABC

Margot reminded the Board that the first Friday of the NABC, July 22, is the day the NVBA welcomes players to the tournament. NVBA players should take this opportunity to promote NVBA games and events.

Treasurer's Report

The Board reviewed the financial statements from Ann Atcheson, which detailed profit and loss since the beginning of the calendar year, set forth budgeted to actual expenditures, and compared the balance sheet for assets and liabilities with that of the prior year. NVBA is running ahead of budget; that is because the Annual Meeting expenses haven't been posted yet and will appear on next month's accounting.

Ann reported that NVBA's 2015 books successfully passed audit, which cost NVBA only a small gift to the auditor. The bottom line of the Auditor's statement was: "Ann Atcheson continues to do a great job in organizing the books; posting into Quickbooks; and preparing financial statements."

Ann noted that the version of Quickbooks she is using is about to be no longer supported by Quickbooks. She asked the Board if they want to authorize her to purchase a newer version, once she buys a new MAC computer, for \$300, or if the Board would prefer she purchase an online version that would provide multiple access to the accounts by Board members, but would require NVBA paying a monthly maintenance fee for the program of \$20/mo. the first year and \$40/mo. after that. Another option is to buy the Quickbooks

software and then use a DROPBOX account for sharing and backing up the database. A decision on this was postponed to a future meeting.

NVBA Sectional fees are being raised \$1.00 starting with the September Sectional. The Board needs to decide if it wants to keep this entry fee constant and absorb the extra \$1.00 surcharge normally collected for grass roots fund games and/or NABC fund games when they're held during sectionals. Ron said he would put this issue on the agenda for the next meeting.

“The Longest Day” Fundraising Event for Alzheimers on June 18

Jim Gerding reported that the two games held on June 18 to raise funds for Alzheimer's collected \$6,931.00 and over \$7,000 has been donated on the Internet. NVBA's Board agreed to pay the ACBL table fees for these two games (83.5 tables), and the Treasurer will provide the funds when she receives a written accounting of the number of players/tables present at each game. The game was run under the sanction of ACBL an ABA Club Director Clara Berryhill's game, so the table fees should be reimbursed to her.

LM/NLM Game

NVBA players have shown interest in the Unit holding more LM/NLM games – possibly one a quarter. There has also been a suggestion that in future LM/NLM games, the LMs should all sit in the same direction, such as North and East, and the NLMs South and West. Kevin has said he is willing to compile a Planning Guide for the LM/NLM game based on the past experiences of Ron, Joe Hertz and himself.

NVBA Unit Game

There was discussion of establishing a 0-20 MP game at the NVBA Unit game. Kevin is ready to organize and run it for a trial period from August-December 2016 and then evaluate its continuation at that time. The Board voted unanimously to run a 0-20 game on a trial basis, starting on August 4. This would give new players who attend Bridge University and LBIAD at the NABC a place to play where they play against competition at their level. One of the concerns is where this game will be run, whether it can be held in the same room as the 199er game, or if the 199er game can be moved into the “big” room with the Open games, or whether a small room can be found elsewhere in Beth El to run a game of 4 tables or so....such as one of the upstairs rooms. The 199er game cannot be run in the Open room on Thursday evenings where either the 199ers or the Open Game will be playing Swiss Teams while the other group is playing pairs. These eight dates are September 8 and 15, all four Thursdays in October, November 3 and December 8. Leo said he would address these dates with Beth El after his return from Maine. Kevin plans to visit senior living communities in the local area to advertise the game and see if these facilities would be able/willing to use one of their small shuttle buses to deliver players to and from the game. There will be a lecture/lesson before each 0-20 game and there will no longer be a lecture before the 0-199er game for as long as the 0-20 game runs. Lecturer/Director is to be paid \$70/week. If there is a separate lecturer, that person will receive a Unit Game Free Play. Other costs associated with the 0-20 game are the costs for duplicating another set of boards, the costs for some extra refreshments and the cost for printing more hand records. These costs are not expected

to exceed \$100/wk. As always, players with 0-5 MPs play free. Otherwise, the entry fee for this game will be \$5.00. This game will be advertised on the NVBA website, in the NVBA newsletter, in the weekly 199er and Open game emails, and at the LBIAD and “Bridge Plus” games at the NABC.

Discussion of the many suggestions that have been proposed for increasing attendance at the Unit Game was postponed until Susan Miskura can attend a Board meeting, since she is collating all the data and proposals based on the survey conducted.

NVBA Newsletter

David Lindley presented the Board with some new newsletter design options. The Board liked what David did, so the plan is to adopt his new design for the next newsletter. Eventually the Board would like to do away with mailing newsletters and just print some to have available at Unit and club games and for new members and transfers into the area.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT: The next NVBA Board meeting will be held at 11:00 am on July 17, 2016 at the Beth El in Alexandria, VA. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Action items:

Kevin to get the list of teachers in NVBA-land updated, and the NVBA information page for LBIAD? sent to Ron, Margot, and Lucy in editable (non-PDF) format. Also to be sent to Ellen Cherniavsky (WBL President) and Ron Conlon (MBA President) as gentle reminders to do the same for their units.

Kevin, Susan, and David to prepare the NABC Flier inviting 0-20 players to NVBA events and teachers, and the mailing to NVBA's 0-20 membership inviting these players to NABC and NVBA events and teachers.

Leo to make appropriate inquiries of Beth El about available space if and when needed for 0-20 Section so we receive an answer in time to prepare for the Sept 8 Unit Game.

Action Items

Item No.	Date	Item	Assignee	Status
1	6/7/2015	Post 199er lecture materials on the Web site	Kevin	Kevin sent the materials to Ron, who will place them on the web site in April
2	6/9/2015	Print, read, and edit first 10 pages of NVBA Policies and Procedures	All	On hold
7	9/13/2015	Solicit NVBA volunteers and contact other organizations to identify potential caddies.	Joe, Ron	Ongoing. Joe will request Yuen deAnda's help after the Longest Day has been completed. Ron will ask for volunteers after his 199er lecture and at the annual meeting.
10	9/13/2015	Identify a new caddy master	Leo	Open; See item 7
11	9/13/2015	Review Board Member position descriptions	Ron, Susan, Lucy	Review and revise the descriptions. When their revisions are complete, they will provide their results to Howard and Kevin for review and revision.
18	10/4/2015	Draft standard contract for directors that hold their own Sectional games	Margot	Open; Will be completed after NABC
27	12/20/2015	Solicit letters of intent from Club owners	Leo, Francesca	On hold pending completion of dedicated bridge center negotiations
30	12/20/2015	Identify hard data required to make recommendations to increase Unit Game attendance	Ron, Susan	Complete. Susan has identified some populations of interest.
36	1/31/2016	Track and aggregate table count data	Leo	Open
41	2/28/2016	Identify candidates for five open Board positions	Jim, Donna	Complete
42	2/28/2016	Produce Ace of Clubs certificates	Donna	Alan Dockerty stated that certificates would be sent directly to Ron by ACBL
44	2/28/2016	Write out Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney free plays	Donna	Complete
45	2/28/2016	Determine Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Rookie of the	Open	Complete

		Year, and the Rush Buckley award		
47	2/28/2016	Add Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and Rush Buckley recipient to their respective trophies	Open	Complete
49	2/28/2016	Develop formal report for 199er survey	Kevin	
50	2/28/2016	Develop flyer for advertising Unit Game at NVBA club games	Joe	Duplicate action item; see 54
52	3/20/2016	Write up description of 199er award	Francesca	Complete
53	3/20/2016	Solicit feedback on 199er award awardee from 199er directors	Francesca	Complete
54	3/20/2016	Develop penultimate version of 199er flyer	Susan	Complete
55	3/20/2016	Discuss NVBA/WBL relations	Ron, Leo	
56	4/24/2016	Develop suggestions to increase Unit Game attendance	Susan	
57	4/24/2016	Provide bullet on recognition program for 199er flyer	Francesca	
58	4/24/2016	Send draft minutes from last annual meeting to Ron	Donna	
59	4/24/2016	Review NVBA tax return by April 27	Leo	
60	4/24/2016	Send mass email to last year's LM/NLM participants encouraging them to participate this year	Joe	
61	4/24/2016	Ask Steve Robinson to publicize the LM/NLM game in his weekly newsletters	Joe	
62	4/24/2016	Find a volunteer to take minutes at the next Board Meeting	Ron	
63	5/15/2016	Update the list of recommended actions to increase Unit Game attendance	Susan	
64	5/15/2016	Work on graphics to keep NVBA branding consistent with all communications and postings	Francesca, David	
65	5/15/2016	Identify volunteers to work at NABC		
66	5/15/2016	Identify additional recommendations for increasing Unit Game attendance	All	

Respectfully Submitted,

Lucy McCoy for the Secretary