

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2016

ATTENDEES: Ron Kral, President  
Ann Atcheson, Treasurer  
David Lindley, Board Member  
Francesca Mazarella, Board Member  
Kevin O'Brien, Board Member  
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Chair  
Livingston Johnson, Unit Game Director  
Howard Stevens, Education Chair

Unable to attend: Donna Hickling, Leo Cardillo, Jim Gerding, Susan Miskura

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the September 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 11:05 a.m. on September 18, 2016 at the Beth El Temple in Alexandria, VA.

**Secretary's Report**

The minutes from the August meeting were reviewed and approved with no changes.

**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. The number of tables is up at the Unit Game and revenue is up \$900.

Ann noted that the version of Quickbooks she is using is about to be no longer supported by Quickbooks. Her recommendation that was accepted by the Board is to purchase an updated version of Quickbooks software.

Currently the NVBA computer doesn't support DROPBOX. Thought is being given to upgrading the NVBA computer used at the Unit Game by the end of the year.

**NVBA Board of Directors – Need to Update ACBL Info**

The Secretary, Donna Hickling, needs to make sure ACBL has the list of current NVBA Board members. This information needs to be reported to ACBL right after the election of Board members at the Annual Meeting in May.

Action Item for Donna: Please check with ACBL to determine whom they have listed as NVBA Board members. For example, Howard Stevens is our Education Chair, but he is not an officially elected Board member. Please be sure ACBL is aware of that and hasn't listed any other committee chair members as Board members, who aren't elected officials.

**NVBA Phone**

Joe Hertz has set up access for the NVBA phone, 571-789-8338. Alan Dockterman and Ron Kral need to be added to the access list.

### **NVBA Unit Game**

--There was discussion of the number of Directors needed at the NVBA Unit game and what their compensation should be, now that Kevin is there running the new 0-20 game during its trial period from August-December 2016. Given the success of the game so far, it is being added to the NVBA Sectional tournament schedule for February and April 2017. There was discussion of where to run the 0-20 game and where to run 199er games run as Swiss team events during tournaments. For the time being, the Board sees no problem with running the 0-20 game in the "small" room during tournaments.

--Livingston asked for one more set of boards, noting that the Unit currently has 7 sets in play. Ron Kral said we need to find out where the four sets of Boards are that were being used in Bridge-in-Schools programs. Livingston has one, Suzanne Abrams is believed to have one and Yuen DeAnda may use one at Sunrise Living. Ron was going to ask Sheryl McEwan if she has the other set or knows where it is.

--Livingston has notified the Board that he is resigning as Unit Game Director effective December 29, 2016. Ron is looking for a suitable replacement or team of directors to handle Thursday night duties.

--Planning Meeting with WBL for Unit Game schedule for 2017 is being held at the home of WBL President Ellen Cherniavsky on October 2. Kevin O'Brien and Livingston Johnson will attend for NVBA.

--Dollar Days as an Incentive to Increase Unit Game attendance. The Board voted not to hold a month of dollar days at this time in either the 199er game or Open game.

--Halloween Party: Costumes are encouraged, and Francesca is arranging another jewelry trunk show.

### **Selection of District 6 Goodwill Committee Members from NVBA**

The Board has voted to name Dean and Carolyn Baird to the D6 Goodwill Committee this year. New members will be welcomed at a Goodwill Committee Reception at the D6 Regional in Norfolk, VA in November.

### **NVBA Sectional Games held Thursday and Friday morning – Contracts needed**

The table fees, director fees (where applicable) and handling of NVBA Sectional Free Plays need to be specified in a contract with Norma Pierzchala for the Thursday morning game and with Gene Schuyler for the Friday morning game of NVBA Sectionals. The Board asks Margot Hennings to draw up agreements or submit any existing agreements with these club owners to the Board for review/updating. The Board believes NVBA should compensate these club directors the portion of entry fees that they would receive for any free plays submitted at their games, whether it is a player with 0-5 MPs who plays

free at NVBA games, or a volunteer worker/Board member redeeming a free play for their volunteer work.

### **NVBA Sectionals tournament**

--The Board voted to change the name of the February NVBA Sectional tournament for the time being from the William Poissant sectional to "NVBA Winter Sectional." The Board members also believe that Poissant has been honored for a long enough time, and the trophy eventually should be named in honor of someone else. There is space on the William Poissant trophy for two more names, so the Board is postponing for the time being establishing a trophy event at this tournament in a different name.

--The Board would like to see the evening start times for sectional games on Friday and Saturday evenings changed from 7:30 PM to 7:00 PM because of the long wait between the afternoon and evening sessions. This needs to be discussed with Tournament Chair Margot Hennings and a survey taken of the players.

--NVBA and WBL have agreed to run 0-20 MP games on Thursday sectional nights with hand records. On Sectional nights, players in the NVBA 0-20 MP game may not have any advisory assistance.

### **iContact Renewal**

The Board approved renewal of the use of iContact as the Internet provider for mass emails sent out weekly to advertise Unit game and 199er game activities and general information of interest to NVBA members.

### **Nominations for Dave Murray and Ron and Mary Ann Kral Awards**

--The Dave Murray and Ron and Mary Ann Kral trophies are to be awarded at the Holiday Party on December 15. The Board asks Club Liaison Susan Miskura to ask club directors/managers for nominations of players who meet the criteria for the Dave Murray award, so that a vote can be taken at the November Board meeting in time for trophies to be engraved. The Dave Murray trophy does not have to be awarded if there are no suitable candidates.

--Francesca will poll players at the 199er game and the Directors of that game for nominees for the new Ron and Mary Ann Kral trophy recognizing a player whom everyone would like to partner, who is friendly at the table and exhibits proper bridge etiquette at all times, who demonstrates an interest in improving their bridge skills and who contributes to the success of the Unit by volunteering.

### **Items of Continuing Interest**

--Establishing a "Ride Board" on the NVBA website with names of players willing to give other players rides at night to the Unit game, and the names of players who are interested in getting a ride to the game.

--Dedicated Bridge Center: Francesca and Leo continue their efforts to seek a property where NVBA and any interested bridge clubs could hold their bridge events.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:** The next NVBA Board meeting will be held at 11:00 am on October 16, 2016 at the Beth El in Alexandria, VA. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

**Action items:**

**Secretary to ensure ACBL has up-to-date list of NVBA Board members.**

**Find a replacement for the Unit Game Director by the end of December.**

**Establish location of all four sets of Bridge-in-Schools boards.**

**Look into buying a computer that supports DROPBOX and also works with ACBLScore.**

**Change name of February NVBA Sectional. Change times of evening games on Friday and Saturday at NVBA Sectionals?**

**Susan Miskura and Francesca Mazarella to solicit nominations for Dave Murray and Ron and Mary Ann Kral awards.**

Action Items

Item No.	Date	Item	Assignee	Status
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
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 Year, and the Rush Buckley award	Open	Complete
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

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
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	
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	
66	5/15/2016	Identify additional recommendations for increasing Unit Game attendance	All	

Respectfully Submitted,

Lucy McCoy for the Secretary