

[Final as Approved]  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
August 6, 2017

ATTENDEES: Marty Bley, President  
Ann Atcheson, Treasurer  
John Wertman, Secretary  
Ron Kral, Past President  
Francesca Mazarella, Board Member  
Kevin O'Brien, Board Member  
George Parkins, Board Member  
Howard Stevens, Board Member  
Jim Gerding, Unit Game Chief Director  
Margot Hennings, Sectional Tournament Chair  
Livingston Johnson, Past Unit Game Chief Director  
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Liaison

Unable to attend: Leo Cardillo, Vice President  
David Lindley, Board Member

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the August 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 10:45 a.m. on August 6, 2017 at Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia.

**Secretary's Report**

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

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and unanimously approved.

**Action Items/New Business**

George and Marty led a discussion of action items and new business:

- The 199er/Newcomer lecture materials will be posted on the NVBA website as soon as Ron has an opportunity to do it – the goal is finish by the end of the year.
- The standard contract for club directors that hold their own sectional games has been drafted.
- Kevin is in the process of sending information about the Newcomer game to all NVBA members with fewer than 20 masterpoints via Pianola (a bridge software app) and this will be completed by Sept. 30
- Francesca is in the process of consolidating the information gathered in studying the feasibility of opening a dedicated Northern Virginia bridge center and will send this to the Board soon.

- District 6 Goodwill Committee: NVBA may nominate two members to the Committee. Livingston Johnson and Georgette Weiss were nominated and approved unanimously. John will send them letters notifying them of their selection and that they will be honored in November at the Chesapeake Regional.
- Proposal for Newcomer Player of the Year (POY) Trophy: Kevin proposed a new NVBA/WBL POY trophy for Newcomers (0-20 masterpoints) to complement the existing Life Master and Non-Life Master trophies. Margot indicated that this is feasible but would need to also be approved by WBL. The purpose would be to encourage newcomers to attend local sectionals – the joint nature of the award is a reason for players to travel across the river. Ron noted that we would need someone to calculate the winner annually, which is not an insignificant amount of work. Chris Miller has been calculating the LM/NLM winners but he may move back to the UK soon. Kevin volunteered to calculate the winner for the Newcomer trophy. George suggested we table the idea until we have a better sense as to Chris's continued availability to calculate the existing and this possible new award. Motion tabled.
- Beth El Security: Marty and George met with Adam Wallach, Executive Director of Beth El to discuss new security needs during the Unit Game. The Congregation is going to require that we pay for a police officer to be present during the Unit Game beginning in September. This will mean that we would need to pay \$45/hour from 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. each Thursday – a weekly cost of \$225. Ann indicated that this level of new expense would wipe out NVBA cash reserves within six years; accordingly, she suggested an increase of \$2 per person at the Unit Game. Margot proposed we might start with a \$1 increase – and charge all players the fee, including those who play for free. Ron indicated that we should consider alternate locations, including KOCH. It was pointed out that if we change venues, we will lose some players and gain others depending on the new location. The Board appointed a committee of Marty, George, Jim, John, and Howard to investigate possible other locations. There will be no increase in Unit Game fees for September.
- September 21 Unit Game: Beth El is not available, so we will be playing at the Salvation Army (4915 Ox Road Fairfax). We will use Livingston's tables and bidding boxes. Margot will bring some clocks, bridgemates, and bidding boxes from the previous weekend's sectional. Jim will bring basic supplies. The Rent amount is unknown as of right now. We will seek a classroom for the lecture and 0-20 newcomer game.
- October NLM Regional: Margot led a discussion of issues related to the NLM Regional (Oct. 6-8 at the Elks). Chris Miller and Ted Ying will be the overall and NLM Directors in Charge and Jim and Livingston will help as TAs. Margot shared a document showing projected finances for the NLM Regional supplemental to the Sectional, which will be held at the same time. The Board approved a motion allocating \$500 to Margot to cover additional expenses related to the Regional, as needed. The Board views this initial NLM Regional effort as marketing and experimental effort. There may be book sales in conjunction with the event, but it is still up in the air depending on Jeremy's (book seller) travel schedule. We might need to bring some tables from Beth El to the Elks for the

Regional – Ann and Margot will check on the status of tables at the Elks. We may also need additional supplies, including bidding boxes. We will also ask David to put a notice about the need for caddies in the NVBA weekly email.

- New Business: John proposed we consider holding a yearly NVBA fundraiser or silent auction – especially if we need additional funding to cover Beth El security costs. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting. We will also discuss ideas for lowering food costs at the Unit Game and food for the holiday party. There will also be a discussion on the creation of an inventory of NVBA property.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:** The next NVBA Board meeting will be held at 10:45 am on September 24, 2017 at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, VA. The meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Wertman, Secretary