

FINAL AS APPROVED

Fifty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Northern Virginia Bridge Association

May 4, 2017

The Fifty-Fifth annual meeting of the NVBA was held at Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, VA on May 4, 2017. The President, Ron Kral, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

1. Welcome and Change to the Constitution: Ron welcomed everyone to the dinner meeting and thanked all the volunteers for their assistance in the various activities involved in setting up the meeting and dinner. Ron explained the change to the NVBA Constitution that the Board has proposed to enable it to email the annual meeting announcement to members rather than mail it through the postal service. The change was passed with one member voting nay. Ron also noted that he was stepping down as President, as was Donna Hickling as Secretary and Susan Miskura as Board Member. Pending the election to be held later in the meeting, George Parkins will take over from Susan as club liaison.

Ron also asked that all players in the Newcomer game stand up for a round of applause.

2. Treasurer's Report: The Unit Game is now profitable, with a profit of \$3500 for 2016 as opposed to the \$4000 loss for 2015. Attendance has increased and the entry fee was raised. Ron explained that the Unit Game financials are cyclical; after a price increase it runs at a profit; then as costs increase over time it breaks even and then eventually runs at a loss; this loss is followed by another price increase. The objective is to break even over time.

The Sectional tournaments also had a net gain of \$7000.

All the NVBA financials are now available for viewing on the NVBA website.

3. Elections: The following members were elected by acclamation for positions on the Board of Directors:

1. President: Marty Bley
2. Secretary: John Wertman
3. Executive Directors: George Parkins, Howard Stevens

Ron thanked the board members for their service and noted two board members were departing: Donna Hickling and Susan Miskura. They were honored for their efforts on the Board and their contribution to the NVBA.

4. Awards: Ron and Marty then presented the 2016 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards. In addition, the following awards were announced:

A. *Rookie of the Year*

Ruth Hansen
Lawrence Plotkin

B. *Rush Buckley NLM*

Rick Bingham

C. *Woman of the Year*

Helene Bauman

D. *Man of the Year*

Steve Reed

Each of these winners was recognized and their pictures were taken. The players received awards and free plays for their accomplishments.

5. Concluding Remarks: Marty Bley, the incoming NVBA President, spoke to the membership at the end of the meeting. She thanked Susan Miskura and Donna Hickling for their contributions to the Board, Kevin O'Brien for instituting the successful Newcomer Game, and David Loken for the Annual Meeting food. She also gave a big thank you to Ron Kral for all his accomplishments and hard work as NVBA President. Marty and Ross Bley are chairing the Bethesda Regional in July. Marty announced that parking at the Marriot is \$15.00 per day and there is a shuttle to the venue, running every two minutes from a satellite lot. She is investigating ways to reduce this amount. She also made an entertaining request for volunteers using bridge terms to spell out the word volunteer, with actual volunteers from the audience holding up the letters to form the word.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hickling
Secretary, Unit 218