

[FINAL AS APPROVED]
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2019

ATTENDEES: Marty Bley, President
Georgette Weiss, Vice President
David Lindley, Board Member
Joe Hertz, Board Member
Kevin O'Brien, Board Member
George Parkins, Board Member
Ron Kral, Webmaster
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Liaison

Unable to attend: Ann Atcheson, Treasurer
John Wertman, Secretary
Howard Stevens, Board Member

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the May 2019 meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 10:52 a.m. on May 8, 2019 at Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Ron Kral said that he had not yet received approved minutes from the February, March, and April meetings for posting to the website

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report and tax statements for 2018 were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Action Items/New Business

George led a discussion of action items and new business:

- Kevin reported that David had published in the weekly NVBA email a paragraph urging members to encourage people they know to try to the 0-20 game.
- Ron reported that tablecloths have been ordered and are on the way.
- Joe reported that he has a set of Braille playing cards and an electronic bidding box and is willing to donate them to the Unit. He will coordinate with Ron to if the dealing machines will accept the cards.
- Joe explained that his hearing deficiency makes it hard for him to hear director calls, especially as more than one game goes on simultaneously on Thursday evenings. He reported that for \$90 each we can purchase a pager and transmitter that will work with our existing Bridgemates to allow players to summon the game director by pressing a button on the Bridgemate. The pager comes in two

varieties, one that can be attached to a belt and the other worn wrist-watch style. Joe reported that the transmission range of the devices should be essentially the same as that of the Bridgemates themselves. Kevin suggested working with District 6 to see about buying more of these devices and perhaps getting a quantity discount. The sense of the Board was that we should consider buying the devices for the Unit and reporting our experience with them to District 6.

- Action Item: Joe will enquire about quantity discounts and verify that the devices will indeed work in conjunction with our Bridgemates.
- Ann provided information to the meeting on how much has been spent by clubs and the units since 2015 on supplies ordered from Bridge Buddy or Baron Barclay. Kevin has typically made two purchases each year from each company, as the range and style of products they offer is somewhat different. George, as club coordinator, will take over the ordering process.
- Action Item: Kevin will supply George with complete information on ordering supplies for the past few years.
- About 30 people have signed up so far for the LM-NLM, which is on June 6. The online sign-up is about to be activated.
- Annual Meeting: Marty reported that the trophies have been ordered and will be ready for pick-up a day or two before the meeting. She has acquired two small trophies that can be fitted with a new plaque and used again; they came from a player who said he had more trophies than he knew what to do with.
- Reston Regional: Marty reported that 8 people have signed up for the director's course prior to the meeting, including one person who is coming from Georgia. Marty and Shawn Stringer recently had a good meeting with management at the Hyatt in Reston. Room booking is down by about 50 people compared to last year.
- At the Regional, two meals will be provided for all players, on Wednesday and Sunday. There will be an ice-cream bar on July 4th. I/N players will get bagels, muffins or something equivalent on Tuesday. The Hospitality Suite will be minimal (and will not be available on the evening of the 4th). Fast Pairs games will indeed be fast pairs (24 boards, with 5 minutes per board) and not Short Pairs (18 boards at 7 minutes each), as happened at a recent tournament causing general unhappiness.
- Longest Day: Ron reported that the website is up and running, although the goods and services auction is not yet live. He has made a number of laminated sheets promoting the player auction.
- There was a discussion of how the Unit Game will operate during Longest Day week. Marty will approach Beth El management about the room rental being waived. Players will not be asked to pay the security fee. Other details are still being decided.
- Lesson schedule: Bob Boyd and David Lindley will provide the lectures in May; Vonnie Lavender will do two in June. Marty will arrange others. Joe Hertz and George Parkins expressed interest in giving lessons.
- The Unit Game on June 27 has been designated the Janet Gookin Memorial Game. Vonnie Lavender will be arranging for food, starting around 5:30, and will organize speaker(s) to remember Janet and her impact on local bridge.

NEXT MEETINGS AND ADJOURNMENT: The next NVBA Board meetings will be held at 10:45 a.m. on June 9 and July 14 at Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia. The meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Lindley, Board Member