

CBA Board Meeting Minutes

5 April 2019

Attendance: Nalin Mehta, John Meinking, Steve Messinger, Peter Outcalt, John Williams, Pam Campbell, Steve Moese. Potter Orr (3:26 PM). Also attending: AJ Stephani, Mike Lipp, Larry Newman.

President Mehta called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 PM.

Minutes from the 2/21/2019 Board Meeting were approved unanimously.

Flying Pig Tournament Report (AJ Stephani)

- E-Bulletin set. \$100 invoice to fastresults paid. Steve Moese will publish during the tournament. Da1 1 bulletin will be created in the next 2 weeks or so. Nalin Mehta will contribute to the first bulletin.
- Site Hotel (Ramada→Marriott) has invested \$10MM and construction is underway. New sleeping rooms not done. There are 40 rooms for the tournament. Issues (e.g. women's bathroom) are being attended to and will be tournament ready.
- Fairfield Inn next door offering rooms at \$79 per night.
- Feedback for the Ramada is a little worse than other regionals.
- Approximately 50% of the players at the Flying Pig are new to the tournament – there is significant turnover.
- T-Shirts not ordered yet. Prize chair out of the area for now. Steve Moese volunteered to help AJ. Nalin asked for tasks the board can do.
- Hospitality committee (Karen, Joy, Joanne) will deliver top notch experience. We will provide free coffee on site.
- Nalin to negotiate free rooms for 5 directors during the week of the tournament.

Membership Committee (Steve Messinger)

Incorporating notes sent prior to meeting:

- No Decisions needed from Board
- No budget variance
- 24 new members Q1 – last year ~ 52 new members

Primary Focus

- Preparing New Member Packets – Welcoming new members
- Sharon Kreitzer will leave Membership Committee and run the CAP program
- Carol Scovic will be the new student / player liaison to interface with new player contacts
- Support duplicate bridge education (under development by Education Committee)
- S. Messinger with access to Pianola
- Membership will run the NLM Sectional in November

Note

- Sanction holders have been thanking members for coming and many members welcome players to their tables
- The 0-20 game and support for new players provided by Pam and others has helped attract / develop new members
- The Friday game is the only 0-500 game for NLM's

Membership Committee discussion:

- 24 new members Q1 (past we had 52/year); OLLI (Osher Life Long Learning Institute) helpful.
- No NLM game other than Friday for players above 20 MPs
- New member packets well received
- Sharon Kreitzer to run the Come And Play (CAP) program.
- Carol Scovic is the new player – player liaison.
- 9 people signed up for the Intro to Duplicate Bridge Class.
- Membership Committee will run the NLM Sectional here in September
- Confirm access to Unit Pianola Account for messaging NLMs.
- Connecting to Anderson and NKy (Cordell Coy) to support membership work.

Education Committee

- OLLI full! Some join directly and not via OLLI. We are respectful of the OLLI enrollment process but serve those who do not want to join OLLI
- We have 20 students per week in CAP
- Supervised play seems to be losing attendance (no numbers)
- Takes people a minimum of 1 year to learn bridge and transition to duplicate.
- Incentive packets given students (convention card holder, CBA Convention card, 2 free CAP sessions)
- Will include new limited ACBL memberships when made available by the ACBL.
- NKy has no current classes.
- Anderson has no current classes
- Cincinnati Best Practices Teacher Workshop promoted in the ALERT article for April 2019.

MOTION: The Come and Play coach shall receive one free play for each session coached. Passed Unanimously.

Treasurer Report

- No Treasurer's report – due end of April. Timing of meeting did not allow all March activity to clear. Will post to website.
- Unit's SAMs Charge Card had fraudulent activity. Card replaced. Suspect charges contested and to be removed from the account.
- Compensation report. Current status shared prior to meeting. Executive Committee will review and propose new plant o board for ratification on June 21 meeting.

Investment Report

Investments prospering this past quarter up \$9K.

MOTION: Proposed amendment to Unit Investment Policy to enable larger holdings in successful investments without raising portfolio risk was approved by the board unanimously. The new policy is posted to the website.

New Business

Additional Parking

- \$65-75 K for satellite parking lot on Reading Road just north of the Viox building driveway was discussed. Nalin, John, and Robert Brown will continue negotiations to see if an attractive arrangement is possible.
- John will explore how to add stone slabs across grass between Viox and Complete Care Providers.

Swivel High-Back Chairs

Several members have requested new chairs to match the swivel high back chair design they prefer (brown chair picture discussed). The Unit does not want any swivel base chairs with wheels. The board is willing to have the members themselves identify a chair style for purchase that meets their preference but does not have wheels or a swivel base. We do not encourage members dragging chairs from table to table during a game.

Access to CBC

The current process is for the President to approve access requests, and the CBC Mgr then issues the code and a key copy. The codes and keyholders are reviewed annually to cancel access for those no longer needing it.

GNT – Hospitality is ready. B&C Strats need more promotion – Steve Moese to send broadcast message to U2500s reminding them of this opportunity. The Board authorized paying the cleaning crew extra for men's room cleaning. Cleaning for the weekend has been contracted.

Play Friendly Table Cards- Potter reviewed status. He will produce 16 cards for testing at the CBC. Board wants to test the laminated version with one or two directors. Mike Lipp will confirm lamination cost.

Tom Mess has been appointed the new **Disciplinary Chair for Unit 124**. The Board thanks AJ Stephani for his years of service in this position. AJ's recent election to the Board of Directors meant he cannot participate in Unit or District level disciplinary positions as the Board of Directors is the final appeal body.

2018 Form 990 – Potter is preparing the 2018 form 990 for the Unit. Issues with the 2017 Form 990 have been resolved.

Suggestion Box – Mike Burns will create a locked comment box for players to offer ideas. President Mehta will open and share results with the Board.

Unit Phone Book - \$600 per year expense. Board affirms the value in continuing the service as 30+% of our members do not use the internet/email, and many find a hard copy of the directory useful.

Nalin Mehta shared a window sticker to promote bridge at the CBC.

The board entered an executive session. The executive sessions adjourned and normal business resumed.

John Meinking asked the Board to get behind a proposal for the Unit to raise funds to purchase a bridge center. He wants to set up a building fund. Ownership of the center could be proportional to the funding by membership. If no building were to be possible, the collected funds would return to charity. The Unit has \$200K in assets for which there is no apparent use.

Steve Moese shared that the issue led to a divided board for 5 years prior to renewing the lease on the current center. The cash on hand for the unit covers the financial commitment to the center (8 years at about \$60K per year) plus the Unit's obligation to source two sectional and one regional every year. We currently run the CBC at breakeven, and the money maker for the Unit is the Flying Pig Regional. Sectionals make a small profit only because we use our CBC. As space for tournaments continues to rise in price, we have to maintain a cash reserve in the face of declining membership and declining tournament attendance. Our membership is aging.

President Mehta decided this issue is not a priority for the board for now. We have 7 years left on the current lease. The Board will consider this question not sooner than two years from now.

President Mehta reminded the Board that we have two priorities more important than building a new bridge center - grow membership participation in existing games, and grow membership. That should be our single-minded focus.

Having no other business before it, the Board adjourned.

The next Unit Board Meeting is Friday June 21 at 3:00 PM.

Submitted Respectfully,
Steve Moese