

CBA Board Meeting Minutes – January 4, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A.M. In attendance were John Meinking, Steve Moese, Mike Purcell, Tom Mess, Sonya Wilson, Nalin Metha, Pam Campbell, and Bob Fisk. A. J. Stephani (*ex officio member*) was also in attendance.

Minutes

The minutes of the December 8, 2014 meeting were approved.

Board Members Introductions

This was the first Board Meeting in 2015 with three new Board Members. Each Board Member had a chance to share her/his initial bridge experiences.

- Pam Campbell – Pam only started playing bridge seriously 2½ years ago after her retirement from P&G. With her mother and brother being bridge players, Pam had willing teachers;
- Mike Purcell – Mike started playing bridge thanks to his grandparents;
- Nalin Metha – Nalin learned bridge while he was at college in London. He still has fond memories of one 20 hour session of bridge in college;
- Sonya Wilson – Sonya’s father was an excellent poker player, which meant she grew up playing cards. She also had in-laws that were frequent bridge players;
- A. J. Stephani – A. J. learned in college, but started playing at the Cincinnati Bridge Center about 7½ years ago;
- John Meinking – John has been playing duplicate bridge at various Cincinnati locations since the 1970s, including bank and restaurant basements. John still remembers the graciousness of Norm Coombs playing as his partner even when he had the character building experience of going down 1400;
- Bob Fisk – Bob started playing at the CBC in 2009, but he was introduced to bridge by her parents. His parents frequently had bridge parties, which fascinated Bob. His parents bought him Goren’s bridge book, causing him to convince neighborhood classmates to play bridge instead on sledding on snow days;
- Steve Moese – Steve played bridge in college and when he moved to Cincinnati in the 1970s. John Meinking was one of his partners in those early days. Steve recalls that his parents used games and cards as entertainment;
- Tom Mess – Tom is here literally because of bridge. His parents first date was because his father needed a bridge partner. Tom learned from his parents, but mainly played party bridge until about 5 years ago. Tom’s wife, Helen, also learned from her parents, but all bidding was in Ukrainian unless it was a short club – that was bid in English.

Board Meeting Dates

It was determined that many Board members will be out of town for the February meeting. This meeting is cancelled. The remaining scheduled Board meetings are:

- January 20
- March 10
- April 21
- May 19
- June 16
- July 21
- August 18
- September 22
- October 20
- November 17
- December 7

It was suggested that the Annual Meeting of the CBA being coupled with the Holiday Party.

Discussion of CBA and CBC 2015 Priorities

The Board members discussed various priorities for the CBA and CBC in 2015. The priorities centered on increased membership, improving the CBC facility, and exploring CBA options when the current lease agreement for the 2860 Cooper Road space expires in February 2017.

As a result of these discussions, President Meinking asked that the committee exploring the various Cooper Road space options provide a recommendation to the Board by July 21. Nalin Metha mentioned that he may be able to have an architect friend draw up blueprints for a new or remodeled bridge center.

President Meinking also requested that Board members and other interested CBA members volunteer as stand-by players for the Tuesday evening games.

There were several motions made following the discussion of priorities.

Replacement of Chairs at CBC

On motion by Bob Fisk and seconded by Tom Mess, the Board authorized the Operations Committee to spend up to \$3,500 to replace chairs for the CBC. It was recognized by the Board that the CBC should have several types of chairs since one chair style does not fit all. Additionally, chairs that are easily moveable is an important consideration.

Improvement of Front Desk Area

On motion by Steve Moese and seconded by Bob Fisk, the Board authorized up to \$2,000 for improvement of the front desk area. Messrs. Potter Orr and Steve Moese would take the lead on front desk improvements.

The meeting was adjourned at about 12:35 P.M.

Tom Mess
CBA Secretary