

CHARLOTTE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting, March 1, 2017

Call to Order:

Susan Lohr, President, called the meeting to order. Members in attendance: Don Lassiter, Dave Weber, Martha Harrington, Colleen McMahon, Marta Heise, Lauren Campbell, and Jim Bender. Also in attendance: Janet Case, Marilyn Goodrich, Rhea Caldwell, and Len Case.

Treasurer's Report/ Finance and Legal:

Marilyn reported that the club netted \$844 last month and that the club received a check from ACBL from the fall regional in the amount of \$1,250.00.

Marilyn brought up a concern regarding insurance: is the club adequately ensured to cover any improvements or new equipment. Don Lassiter agreed to contact our insurance company regarding this issue. Jim Bender volunteered to take a new inventory that includes the dealing machine, bridgemates, bidding boxes, printer, and computer.

Facilities:

Dave Weber reported that the tiles in the foyer are scheduled to be replaced soon. It will take one day for the tiles to be installed and then another two days for the tiles to set. Since we cannot walk on the tiles for those days, he proposed that installers work on half the tiles at a time. This will take longer but will enable players to use the front door during the installation.

The outside lights that had burned out have been replaced.

Dave spoke to the cleaners about doing a more thorough job cleaning the bathrooms, particularly working on stains and the vents, and they have begun work on this.

Colleen McMahon spearheaded a group who cleaned all the bridgemates in February.

Tournaments:

Susan Lohr noted that thanks to Alice Folger everything is moving along well for the spring sectional.

Susan also noted that we still do not have a chairperson for the fall sectional. In support of sectionals at our club, Janet Case made the point that they are an important opportunity for non-life-masters to gain silver points without travelling many miles away. She reminded the board that there were forty tables at the NLM Tournament in January, which indicates that players want to take advantage of this opportunity. She also noted that sectionals are always helpful financially to the club. Janet's comments reinforced the importance of finding a chairperson for

the fall sectional. If we do not have a chair for the fall before the start of the spring sectional, we will not be able to move forward with this event.

Last month the club received an email asking the board to consider rescheduling the dates for the fall sectional since Wilmington has a sectional at the same time. After considerable discussion, the board decided that alternate dates created additional problems, conflicting with summer vacations and other sectionals in the region. The decision was made to leave the dates as they stand.

Len Case asked the board to decide whether the club wants to continue to support an annual regional tournament in Charlotte. Arnold Hoffman has agreed to chair the regional for the next five years. David Smith and Len Case are willing to co-chair. The board's purpose is finding enough volunteers to help with event. Don Lassiter and others noted that finding volunteers has not been a problem in past years. After discussion, Don moved to support an annual regional in Charlotte through 2019. Marta Heise seconded, and the board approved the motion.

Special mention: the board noted its appreciation of the excellent work done by Arnold, Dave, and Len effecting a successful and smoothly run Charlotte Regional. In addition, the board thanked Marlene and John Smith from Cornelius for their work in providing partners for the event.

Player Development:

Colleen McMahon reported that the Intro to Duplicate Night was a huge success. Fifty-four people attended and were very positive in response to their experience. Pam Berry is following up with her students who attended, encouraging them to participate in games at the club.

Colleen reported that the club will offer two weekly 0-20 games throughout March. Rhea Caldwell has agreed to direct an eighteen board 0-20 game on Tuesday night, and there will be a twelve - seventeen board game on Friday afternoons. Experienced players have volunteered to help at these games, providing assistance with the movement of pairs and the use of the bridgemates. Colleen reinforced the point that bringing new players into the games is important to the future success of the Charlotte Bridge Club.

Events:

Martha Harrington reported that Awards Day preparations are going smoothly. She informed the board that Linda Helikson had suggested a baked potato bar for the Awards Day lunch and asked the board its opinion. The board concurred that this would be worth trying as something unique.

Martha noted that the Longest Day Event in support of Alzheimer's research is a more complicated event to organize and effect. She noted that she will need volunteers to help with the silent auction, raffle, directors and organizing games. Martha has begun a list of people who are volunteering items for the silent auction. Anyone who has something to donate is encouraged to talk to Martha as soon as possible so she can get a better idea of the scope of

the auction. Janet Case will type instructions (sanction number, codes, etc.) for the games and distribute these to the directors for the event.

Old Business:

Susan Lohr noted that the board needs to review the current By-Laws to ensure that they are accurate and up-to-date. The board will review these and discuss at a later meeting.

New Business:

Celia Johnson is offering bidding boxes for sale. Jim Bender agreed to check out the condition of the boxes and recommend those in good condition for purchase by the board.

Suggestion Box:

David Weber read a suggestion that questioned equitable enforcement of zero tolerance by directors at the club. If one has a specific concern regarding a director, he or she needs to take this up with the proprietor of the game. Concerning zero tolerance issues, Rhea Caldwell reminded everyone that unless a player calls the director to the table when the alleged offense occurs, the director is powerless to help with the situation. It is worth repeating that zero tolerance is a shared responsibility.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 5, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta Heise, Secretary