

CHARLOTTE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting, September 6, 2017

Call to Order:

Susan Lohr, President, called the meeting to order. Members in attendance: Dave Weber, Martha Harrington, Lauren Campbell, Don Lassiter, Marta Heise, and Bob Fraser. Also in attendance: Dave Sutherlin, Marilyn Goodrich, and Janet Case.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report/ Finance and Legal:

Marilyn Goodrich, Treasurer, distributed the August financial report. Added expenses for the month were the payment of the club's property taxes and the purchase of new bidding boxes. As a result, the monthly report was in the negative, but still on target with the current budget. Also, the report does not yet include the \$1000 bequest that was designated to offset the purchase of the bidding boxes. Investment earnings for the year total \$36,000.

Facilities:

Dave Weber continues to investigate the purchase of new and replacement white boards for the playing room. He has not been able to get definitive answers as to the price or availability of new boards or replacement boards for the current frames. He will get back to the board as soon as he has this information.

The new mats for the foyer and entrance area look good. All the work done on the foyer and entry has made a significant improvement in the overall look of the club.

Dave is looking into an issue with the alarm system. At times, the alarm doesn't set or activate. The problem may lie with the doors not being properly leveled. Dave is going to have this checked to determine what needs to be done.

The Fire Department inspection revealed two issues. No materials may be stored above the sprinklers, so the club must remove anything stored on the top shelves on the back wall. Also, nothing may block the doorway to the outside patio. The club must ensure that no chairs are in front of this exit door.

Tournaments

The fall sectional begins tomorrow, September 7. Colleen and Jim report that all is ready, and the club expects a successful outcome.

Communications:

Bob Fraser reported that the new directory is already on the website and will be ready for distribution the week after the fall sectional. Bob thanked all those who worked on updating the directory. Janet Case spent many hours going over all the names in the old directory, adding 100 new names and removing 287 names of those no longer active in the club. Marilyn, Dave Sutherlin, and Paula Brewer also worked diligently on completing this task, adding ACBL numbers to our database so master point information can be updated more easily.

Bob suggested that the club print 550 hard copies of the new directory, and the board agreed. Cost of the printing is \$650.00.

Events:

Martha Harrington is seeking a volunteer to run the silent auction for the club's Longest Day 2018 fund raiser. It is important to note that the silent auction significantly increased the funds raised for the 2017 event.

Old Business:

The board moved to eliminate the Wednesday night game effective October 1, 2017.

The question of moving Awards Day to a day other than Saturday was deferred to consideration at a later date.

New Business:

Julie Arbit submitted a proposal for a "Barometer" game to be played on Saturday morning at the club. In a Barometer game, all tables play the same board at the same time. A brief lecture after each board gives instruction and guidance on the play of the hands. The floor is open for questions as time allows. The game consists of 12 boards, is ACBL-sanctioned, and awards ACBL masterpoints. Julie suggested an upper masterpoint limit of 300 with instruction geared toward these players. Depending on reception, a Barometer game for newer or more experienced players could be introduced.

The board was unanimously enthusiastic about the concept of the Barometer game, but there were concerns about the time of the game creating issues with the smooth set-up and parking space availability for the regular Saturday games. After much discussion and alternative time proposals, Susan Lohr volunteered to discuss all of the concerns and suggestions with Julie and to email her responses to the board for further consideration.

Arnold Hoffman contacted Susan regarding representation on the Board for District 7. Our Unit 153 is allowed three members on this board, and we currently have only two: Len Case and Arnold. Since the regional is in Charlotte this October, Arnold encouraged us to have full representation on the board. Dave Smith was suggested as a candidate for a third member, and it was agreed to ask Dave if he'd be willing to accept.

Susan noted that it is time to consider names for the nominating committee for the Charlotte Club Board. There will be three open slots for next year.

The board was made aware that there continue to be violations of the club and county smoking ban and discussed penalties for violations. Dave will post a reminder that violations are serious issues, especially because of the county regulations, in the next E-Blast.

Dave Sutherlin reported that there are still issues with the dealing machine. He has been tracking problems and is aware of when and how many specific malfunctions occur. The machine may need to be sent out for repair.

Dave also noted that since the Friday game at Christ Church will be closed at times during December, he is considering opening another section on only the days the church game is cancelled. He is considering creating a 300-500 masterpoint section. Dave said to consider this a "heads-up" as he has not made any decision as yet.

Suggestion Box:

There was a request that booklets on Bridge Etiquette be available for those on the limited side who are not familiar with certain rules and interested in learning more about proper duplicate etiquette.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is Wednesday, October 4, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta Heise, Secretary