

Approved

**Unit 253 – DBAA Board of Directors Meeting
December 5, 2015 – 9:30-11:30 – Bridge Club of Atlanta**

Present:

Officers: Marty Nathan, Judy Fendrick, George Powell, Jan Noll
Unit Reps: Roz Howell, Joan Duffy, Janice Ripley, Vicki Bell
Guests: Ron Torre, Mike Sheldon, Bev Wilkinson

Absent: Becky Butler, Josie Mitchell, Jack Feagin, Dick Myers

Prior Meeting Minutes - The minutes of the October 3, 2015 and the Special Membership Meeting of November 15, 2015 were **approved**.

By-laws approved at the Special Meeting have been filed with the ACBL in accordance with procedures.

Report of Email Votes – Jan Noll reported on several items that were voted on via email.

- Richard Burton was nominated to the Hall of Fame for Unit 253.
*Appointment was **approved**.*
- Motion on holding trophy events is as follows:
To hold a 2 session Open Pairs Championship at the DBAA sectional in Feb 2016 and a 3 session Knock-Out Team Trophy Championship at the DBAA sectional in the summer of 2016.
*Motion was **approved**.*
- Motion was made to increase fee of the DBAA game to \$10: “The table fees for the DBAA game are to be raised to \$10. effective November 18, 2015.”
*Motion was **approved**.*
- Motion regarding adding limited game to DBAA Wednesday night game: “The DBAA Game Committee may run a limited game in conjunction with the existing open game and may contract for a separate director if it so chooses.
Decision was deferred for discussion at the Board Meeting.

Treasurer’s Report – George provided the treasurer’s report through the third quarter prior to the meeting. October had very little activity. The report on the Regional was finalized this week – the report shows a large profit because the hotel comped us on several things; spent \$4700 less than allocated; George is putting together an analysis for District 7 who receives the profits for the tournament. Judy Fendrick questioned why the \$115,000 reserve for Nationals was not shown as liability; George will make that correction in the next report. The report was **approved** as submitted.

President’s Message

- All officers and chairs should write procedures for their areas so that successors have a guide to their responsibilities
- Elections will be held in February in that the formation of the new unit requires that elections be held as soon as practical. The election covers all officer and director positions, even if under the former bylaws a position’s term was for two years. Board members should notify Joan Sheldon if they want to run again.

- Marty asked if the group would be interested in seeing the PowerPoint presentation made by Robert Hartman at the Charlotte Regional on membership trends, things going on within the ACBL. The group thought it would be helpful so Marty will ask for the presentation.

Committee Reports

- **New Appointments** - Marty addressed the District 7 bylaws requirement that we make our annual appointments of District 7 reps. The following were proposed: Judy Fendrick, Jack Feagin, Janet Sherwood, Joe Sherwood, Nicolas Hammond, and Vicki Bell. *Appointments were **approved**.*
- **District 7** - Nicolas Hammond (or appointee) – see above re Robert Hartman presentation.
- **Change of Rank (COR)** - Judy is working to transition COR to Becky Butler and covered the significant changes of the recently-updated COR P&P, which include new definitions of eligible clubs (Unit 253 clubs that hold at least one open game per week) and eligible players (Unit 253 members now or in preceding calendar year who had a COR in the preceding calendar year). We will obtain a listing of COR honorees in our Unit on or after January 6. We will offer to help the director/club manager to make COR announcements on the day of their party. Roz made a suggestion to add wording to the exception for players who had a COR and are not Unit 253 members but who regularly play at any of the Unit 253 clubs. The Director and/or club manager can make this decision. Language will be added to COR P&P. *Motion was made to accept the updated COR P&P, with the modification suggested by Roz. Motion was **approved**.*
- **Directory** – Marty has not had any luck in finding anyone to take over as Project Manager. This is more complicated because the ACBL changed its privacy policy. Vicki pointed out that there are services that maintain directories for organizations. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that Vicki would send out a list and description of the top 3 services. Marty will contact Nicolas Hammond to get an ACBL contact. Marty will make contact and discuss how we might work within the ACBL policy to utilize the ACBL listing.
- **Education** – nothing reported
- **Elections** - nothing reported
- **Finance** - nothing reported
- **GNT/NAP** - Vacant
- **Goodwill** - Judy covered the new Unit 253 Goodwill Policies and Procedures. Essentially, we will follow the District 7 Goodwill P&P. Unit 253 is currently allowed two nominees for the District 7 Goodwill Committee each year based on our membership of roughly 2,300. The P&P provides that a Unit Goodwill Panel, consisting of a chair and two members, will review the annual Goodwill nominations submitted by members for completeness. Nominations are due to the Goodwill Panel from Unit 253 members by

January 15. This date is set in order to meet the March 15 deadline to submit nominations to District 7. If a nomination is lacking in some way, they will request the nominator to update as needed. The Goodwill Panel will provide all nominations along with its recommendation to the Unit board no less than 10 days before its February or early March meeting each year. The board will review and vote on the two nominees. No additional nominees may be submitted by the board. Candy Cox and Karolyn Smith will serve on the committee. The panel will advertise the nomination process through posting flyers at clubs and in the Unit Newsletter. We will also ask club managers to promote the nomination process. Roz requested additional clarification in the P&P as to specifics on how the board will vote and will send suggested language to Judy for update. The board decided to allow the committee to follow the procedures as written, and will vote on this at the January meeting after the clarification on voting has been added.

- **Membership** - Bev Wilkinson reported that 86 new member letters with free play card attached and 48 new transfer letters with free play card attached were sent. This is the cumulative total since we became Unit 253. Going forward, these will be done on a monthly basis.
- **NABC** - Judy reported that there have been delays in getting an acceptable logo design from ACBL. ACBL initially agreed with our Logo Committee's idea, but then backed off, so we've had to work through some issues, and other projects have taken priority with the ACBL Art Department.
- **Newsletter** – Last newsletter came out the beginning of November. Marty pointed out that articles are still coming in late; if this doesn't improve, we may have to omit those articles that are late.
- **Special Games** - As a unit we are entitled to have 24 unit championships a year. Unit Championships are upgraded games that pay extra points with the added bonus of no additional fees charged to the clubs. We also get four Fund games per year. Vicki has drafted a schedule and will have the final list approved by December 10th.
- **Sportsperson of the Year** - Roz Howell will be chair. Roz reviewed some items on which she would like to have consensus and will have the Policies and Procedures available for approval at our next meeting. She proposes no runner-up, whereas in our old unit there was one. Roz also discussed the timing for this and proposed we do early fall nominations. There was discussion as to pros and cons, but agreement was reached on the timing.
- **Tournaments/Trophies** - Ron Torre solicited feedback for start times for evening games at future tournaments. He will likely move the start time to 7:00pm. Marty pointed out that Roswell wanted a 33% increase in rent, making it difficult to stay within budget. Ron was successful in getting the city to leave the rent flat for the February tournament. The plan for food is to have sandwiches available for players to purchase for \$7, and we will give a \$1 coupon to players who play in the morning session. We are looking to move the sectionals in June and November to the Marriott near Perimeter Mall.
- **Web Site** – Allison continues to do an excellent job. She will get content added, but it is up to the individual committee chairs to provide her with the content.

- **Youth Bridge** – nothing to report.

Old Business

- **Trophies** – We are going to need funding for any new trophies/plaques. Roz will provide a proposal at our next meeting. Currently, we have an Open Pairs Trophy Championship for February and KO's for summer. There are other events scheduled in 2016 which offer the opportunity to provide trophies such as non-life membership pairs, friendship pairs (mentor/mentee with LM always sitting North and West), Swiss teams (LM and NLM). Jack is working with other units on State championships. In addition to events there are other things worthy of plaques – Goodwill, Sportsperson of the Year; Player of the Year (LM and NLM). It was suggested that these could be shared among the other clubs. Roz also believes it would be nice to do something that is personal for each winner (mug, pin, etc.)
- **Learn Bridge in a Day?** George reported that expenses are unchanged from last time. He suggested we also include social bridge players in any follow-up correspondence.
- **Investment Policy** – No updates
- **Hall of Fame Policies and Procedure** – Mike Sheldon – There was not sufficient time to discuss P&P so that will be held over to January meeting. Discussion was held on whether or not Emory Whitaker should be grandfathered into the Hall of Fame for Unit 253 (not a resident of Unit 253). Motion was made to make Emory an honorary member of Unit 253 Hall of Fame. *Motion was **approved**.*
- **DBAA Game** – Motion was previously approved on the fee. There was discussion on the motion pending on the limited game. It was agreed that Marty would go back to Ina to discuss masterpoint limit and fee.

New Business

- **2016 Atlanta Regional Tournament Chairs** – D7 policy dictates that the Board needs to appoint Regional Tournament Chairs for 2016. The following motion was made:

The DBAA hereby appoints Jack Feagin as Chair of the 2016 Atlanta Regional with Joe Sherwood as Assistant Chair. It is permissible for the two to be called “co-chairs” in flyers and other publicity.

*Motion was **approved**.*

- **Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs recognition** – The following motion was made to recognize players who achieve Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs designation:

Unit 253 shall recognize those who do well in the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Club Unit competitions as follows:

- We will give the certificate supplied by the ACBL to the winner of each of the 13 Ace of Club categories.
- We will give a medallion prescribed by the ACBL and ordered from Baron Barclay to the winner of each of the 13 Mini-McKenney competitions.

We will strive to do the above each year on the last day of the February sectional if the schedule allows and we can get them in time.

We will at the same time announce the top 3 places in each of the competitions for all 13 categories if the information is then available.

We may avail ourselves of other opportunities (such as our newsletter) to recognize those who have done well in these competitions as well as the District and National competitions.

The Secretary shall have the responsibility for administering this policy.

*Motion was **approved**.*

- **Amendment of Elections Policy** – The following motion was proposed:
The Elections Policy is amended to state that no person can hold a position of officer and of at-large director at the same time.
Comment: The Bylaws imply this but do not specifically say this is so. This was a major problem within our prior unit. It could recur for us if, for example, an officer position was vacated and the president, with Board approval, appointed an existing director to that officer position. This makes it clear that the at-large director position is thereby vacated.
*Motion was **approved**.*
- Next meeting (January 9)/adjourn – Marty Nathan