

Minutes
DBAA Board Meeting
Monday, April 8, 2024

Tom Drinkard called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. In attendance were:

Tom Drinkard
Rich Brody
Becky Butler
Candy Cox
Jack Feagin
Jim Fordham
Craig Robinson
Connie Smilowitz
Garry Williams
Sue Williams

The March Minutes and Treasurer's Report, which were sent out via email with Tom Drinkard's Agenda for today's meeting, were approved.

Vicki Bell sent a copy of the "Directory Opt In Form" to Board members. Since it wasn't received by at least some Board members, Tom will resend it. Vicki is looking for our input.

Members present discussed Sam Marks' request to hold the Alzheimer's Longest Day event Saturday, June 22nd. The 2024 longest day is Thursday, June 20th. Sam will be at the Columbia SC Regional that week, June 16-20, returning Thursday, June 20th. That leaves Friday, the 21st, as a possible date for the event, and Sam has a Friday game. He doesn't have a Saturday game. Craig suggested that one of Sam's regular game days would bring in the most money for Alzheimer's, since all of Sam's regular crowd would play that day as well as players from around town who want to support the charity. The ACBL said that granting Sam's request for Saturday would essentially be granting him all Saturdays for sanctioned games. After further discussion, Sue moved to deny Sam's request for Saturday, June 22nd. Jack suggested that, if Sam held the game Sunday, when there is no impact on Unit clubs, that the Board members should attend his game, bring friends and encourage others to come, and promote the game via pianola blasts to advertise. The denial and Jack's suggestions were unanimously approved and will be conveyed to Sam.

Tom asked if there was any old business. Jack provided an update on the costs and outcome of the February NLM Regional. As currently billed, there will be a loss of \$2,000 - \$3,000, but Jack is concerned that the hotel might not have billed as much as it should have billed. He is also very concerned that we may be beyond the grace period to cancel our contract for next year's tournament, in which case there may a penalty to do so. The problem is that the contract was agreed at a time when attendance was

much better. Current attendance is down; the number of travelers to NLM regionals, who support the hotels, is down; and the ACBL now offers easier ways to earn the needed gold points. Nevertheless, Jack feels that at least one NLM regional per year is worth a loss. As to other venues, tournaments in clubs cause political struggles between the potential host clubs and are only attended by locals. The Adult Recreation Center in Roswell with a hotel nearby, where we've held events in the past, is an option, but the DBAA lost money in the past to the Roswell Ramblers, the social club based at the center that provides the food [at a loss to the DBAA].

Tom asked if there was any new business. He said that there was nothing to report about the Hall of Fame nominations, and the Directory is moving forward with the Opt In Form.

There was no new business, so Tom adjourned the meeting at 7:56.

Submitted by Candy Cox