

Approved

**Unit 253 – DBAA Board of Directors Meeting
October 3, 2015 – 9:30-11:30 – Bridge Club of Atlanta**

Present:

Officers: Marty Nathan, Judy Fendrick, Jan Noll

Unit Reps: Joan Duffy, Jack Feagin, Roz Howell, Dick Myers

Guests: Joe Sherwood, Ron Torre, Joan Sheldon, Mike Sheldon, Elyse Mintz, Nicolas Hammond

Absent: Vicki Bell, Becky Butler, Josie Mitchell, George Powell, Janice Ripley

Prior Meeting Minutes – The minutes of the August 22, 2015 board meeting were **approved**.

Treasurer's Report – George sent the Treasurer's report prior to the meeting. The report was **approved** as submitted.

President's Message

- Dan Osburn is running the Conyers tournament, and he has requested clubs not run extra points games during the tournament. He did send out a follow-up letter explaining he was just asking this as a courtesy. The instant matchpoint game is on the Friday of the tournament, but our clubs are not in conflict as they are outside the 25 mile radius. Dan has changed his membership back to Unit 114 as he is chairing 2 tournaments for that unit.
- **Unit 253 Update** - Notice of the Special Meeting for By-Law approval during Roswell November tournament has been sent to the clubs.

Committee Reports

- **New Appointments** – Marty addressed the need to fill the recently vacated GNT/NAP Chair position. He would like suggestions for someone to fill this slot, preferably from a NLM player or a volunteer. This position is primarily a promotional responsibility.
- **Nominating Committee for Elections** – By-laws call for a Nominating Committee. This committee nominates officers, and director positions are self-nominated. Joan Sheldon has agreed to serve as chairman, and Joan has recommended Veronica Stoessel and Susan Wolfe as committee members. *Appointments were **approved**.*
- **District 7** – This meeting was held at the Atlanta Regional. There was discussion on the problems with the Lou Bluhm event at the tournament. A change was made at the last minute to the schedule to make the top bracket seeded, which forced four teams into this top bracket. The tournament directors did this without Jack's knowledge. For these four teams, their money was refunded. The District TOC is now primarily responsible for running Regional tournaments and works with the local Tournament Chair and Co-Chair. They are making changes for next year to the game start times and locations of events within tournament. Main events will be at 10:00, 2:30 and 7:30. There was some discussion as to whether there is a Lou Bluhm trophy – agreed there is one, but it hasn't been engraved for years. Nicolas pointed out that as soon as tournament schedules go into Tourney Trax, it is very hard to change. Main events next year will be daytime. District will have a financial review this year instead of an audit. They have opened a separate bank account for the NABC. As far as the MABC, they realize tables need to be replaced, along with bidding boxes, and boards. On advertising, Joe Sherwood is working with

Karen Brown on the District 7 website (www.district7bridge.org). Dick encouraged sectional chairs to look at the website for updates. The TOC has prepared Tournament Policies and Procedures that are posted on the D7 website. If anyone has suggestions for changes, send to Dick Myers who is the TOC Point of Contact. The D7 Goodwill Committee plans to review the procedure of providing snack bar coupons on Goodwill Friday to identify a more fair and effective approach. The NAP Flight C qualifying events are being held in Durham, Atlanta, and Spartanburg in 2016. Discussion was deferred for splitting sites for Flight B. GNT conditions for contest were adjusted. Credit card vouchers in the future will be good for the current and next fiscal year. TOC has established procedures, but they are not static. Dick pointed out that he has sent an email to all tournament chairs. There is now a timetable for all tournament chairs, outlining what needs to be done when. Scheduling is done more than a year in advance. Tournament schedules have to be printed 10-11 months out for annual events. Bi-annual tournaments should be done 18 months ahead. We now have two tournament directors (Jeff Green and Jay Bates) who will be handling all District 7 regionals.

- **Change of Rank** – planned for March; nothing to report.
- **Directory** – This is a real frustration as Garry does not have time to finish, and Vicki is going to be cutting back on what she is doing for personal reasons. Marty asked for a volunteer to take this over, along with a committee. Nicolas suggested using the ACBL list and provided Marty a contact at the ACBL to get permission to use their list, as the rules are very complicated as to what we can do. Whatever we use for the print directory would feed into web directory.
- **Education** – nothing to report.
- **Elections** – nothing to report.
- **Finance** – Investment proposal was sent out to Board on October 2. Dick agreed that two bank accounts are critical. *Discussion on this was tabled until next meeting.* George advised in an email a delay in setting up accounts because he needs a copy of the Articles of Incorporation. Judy believes she may have these and will look for them in historical files.
- **GNT/NAP** – Vacant
- **Goodwill (D7)** – Nominations are still being accepted by the ACBL until October 15, for ACBL Member of the Year. If anyone has a nomination for the ACBL Goodwill Member of the Year, these should be provided to Judy to ensure it is submitted properly. Our unit can nominate 2 people for District 7 Goodwill Committee; D7 will be soliciting these shortly. Elyse suggested doing something to recognize lower level players at the Club level. It was agreed that if Elyse could come up with a proposal to which Club Owners agreed, she could present to the Board. Roz pointed out that we are already doing Change of Rank and Mentoring which are geared to newer players. We also give free plays for new members and those who completed 16 hours of beginning bridge classes. Judy proposed the following motion for reimbursement of guest's dinner fees of our honorees.

Proposed that Unit 253 reimburse the \$25 guest's dinner fee for the Unit's honorees who bring guests to the District 7 Goodwill dinner in the honorees' nomination year. According to District 7 Goodwill policy, Unit 253 is currently allowed two nominees for the District 7 Goodwill Committee

*each year, and honorees can bring two guests. The cost of the honoree's dinner is paid by District 7. The maximum reimbursement from the Unit would be \$50 per honoree. Unit Goodwill Chair will administer this award. **Motion approved.***

Dick talked about Disciplinary issues within District. Disciplinary problems at clubs should be brought to District 7.

- **Hall of Fame** – nothing to report until discussion of policies.
- **Membership** – We are sending out packets as approved at last meeting. Marty is going through all the “transfers in” to eliminate all those already in our unit. “Transfers in or out” dictate whether someone is in our unit.
- **NABC** – working on logo. A lot of work is already being done.
- **Newsletter** – A new newsletter is coming out at the end of the month. Marty asked that everyone get articles in on time, especially with the Charlotte tournament at the time the newsletter should be released.
- **Special Games** – nothing to report.
- **Tournaments/Trophies** – Dick is trying to get the sectional tournaments set for 2016. February is set in Roswell. The Crowne Plaza is supposed to be giving us a proposal for the June dates. We have a very good situation with the Marriott which is near the Ravinia. We may have to decide whether to run at a loss or raise tournament charges. The issue is there may be a parking charge (either \$8 or \$5 a day). They are able to do both tournaments. Space is adequate for a sectional. Holiday Inn costs are high, and we would have to raise fees (only available for November). During the meeting Jack received an email on the Marriott, reducing parking charge to \$5 and giving some other discounted pricing. He believes we should give it a try.
- **Website** – Allison has done an excellent job in getting information updated on the website.
- **Youth Bridge** – nothing reported

Old Business

Trophies – Dan Papineau at ADBC has indicated he will have room for the trophy case in his new location.

DBAA Wednesday Night Game – Marty has asked that George hold off on doing anything regarding change of location until after ADBC moves in order to see how the new location impacts attendance.

New Business

Meeting Schedule for 2016

Proposed meeting schedule for 2016 was sent prior to the meeting. It was agreed to go with the following dates for 2016:

January 9 February 20 April 9 May 21
July 9 August 27 October 15 December 10

Elections – Policies and Procedures

These were adjusted for the fact that we are now Unit 253/DBAA. Approval of these are conditional on approval of by-laws at November Special Meeting. Policies in Section 2 are set by Board. We need to be consistent in whether we refer to Unit 253 or DBAA.

A motion was made to make the following standard in all policies and procedures with respect to reference to the Unit:

*Unit 253/Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta, hereafter referred to as DBAA. **Motion approved.***

Marty questioned whether the “date of “election” was first day of election, last day of voting. After some discussion, it was agreed to leave the document as is.

*A motion was made to approve the Elections Policies and Procedures. **Motion approved.***

Hall of Fame – Policies and Procedures

It was agreed that we would not be voting on the special proposal as we were not provided bios nor do we have the 9 members present that would be necessary for such approval.. Sara Medlin, Jim Stogner and Mike Sheldon worked on these policies. All members currently in Unit 114's Hall of Fame residing in our Unit's geographical area are grandfathered in Unit 253's Hall of Fame. The question regarding members outside the geographical area was tabled for our next meeting. Mike discussed the criteria for Hall of Fame – the key criteria is bridge merit/prowess. Other factors should be considered – contributions, ethics/behavior. This should not be a Lifetime Achievement Award. There was also discussion on the fact that if a disability shortens a career, that disability could be factored into any consideration.

The Hall of Fame Nominating Committee submitted a Special Nomination Proposal to nominate the first candidate for induction. The committee requests that the Unit Board vote on this nomination as soon as possible to allow for an announcement at the Roswell Sectional in November.

*A motion was made for the board to accept this nomination and vote by secret ballot through email to the Secretary within two weeks of receiving the nominee's bio. **Motion approved.***

Next Meeting: Saturday, December 5, 9:30 am at BCA

Meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Noll