

APPROVED
Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta
Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2015 – 9:30-11:30 am
Bridge Club of Atlanta

Present:

Officers: Mary Ann Oakley, Vice President; George Powell, Treasurer; Judy Fendrick, Secretary
Unit Reps: Becky Butler, Dick Myers, Rosalind Howell, Jack Feagin and Vicki Bell
Guests: Joan Duffy and Diane Strickland

Absent: Marty Nathan, Larry Rich, Bob Jones and Josie Mitchell

Mary Ann Oakley called the meeting to order at the Posh Café, and we later moved to BCA when Vicki arrived with a key.

Prior Meeting Minutes – Judy

A motion was made to approve the November 14 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report – George

George provided a preliminary 2014 Receipts and Disbursements Report and Financial Highlights Report prior to the meeting. The DBAA game had a net loss in 2014 of \$288 and a net profit in 2013 of \$615. Other items noted by George.

- Need more information from Patty Tucker regarding the Social Bridge game. George paid \$400 this month for design work for the manual for the Social Bridge game. Only 7 out of the 84 participants have used their free play at a duplicate game, and they had until 12/31 to do so.
- Tom Eidson has an outstanding check he has not deposited.
- Larry Rich has not billed the DBAA for web services for the second, third and fourth quarters, so we owe him \$180 for 2014.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion approved.

DBAA Newsletter – Mary Ann

A motion was made to approve Diane Strickland as the new DBAA Newsletter Editor. Motion approved.

January 22 is the deadline to submit articles for the next newsletter, which Mary Ann hopes to have ready for distribution by January 25.

Jack suggested we review the content of the newsletter to make it more concise, and include the schedule for lessons provided before the DBAA game and an interesting bridge hand.

Mary Ann noted it has been difficult to get anyone to submit interesting bridge hands, and that the current process is that Marty tells Mary Ann which items to include in the newsletter, and Patty Nathan formats the newsletter.

Sectional Tournaments – Dick

Dick announced his plans to retire this year as the DBAA Tournament Chair. He will handle the Spring and Summer Sectional tournaments, but not the Fall tournament, although we are scheduled with the Roswell Adult Center for November 11-15.

Dick currently serves District 7 as Vice President and Tournament Operations Committee Chair. Dick is also the co-chair of the Atlanta Labor Day Regional with Jack Feagin, per ACBL policy that all Regional tournaments will have a co-chair.

Dick recommends Ron Torre as his replacement for the DBAA Tournament Chair. Ron has run tournaments in Conyers and served as Dick's tournament co-chair for DBAA tournaments. Dan Osburn has volunteered to serve as co-chair with Ron.

Old Business

Online Directory – Vicki

Vicki stated that Tom Eidson has indicated that he is not available to continue working on the project. Vicki had asked Tom for a listing of the members who have not verified their information in the database, but Tom said he cannot do this without extensive work.

Jack stated he spoke to Tom this past week to let him know we need the committee to get together to finish the project. Tom agreed to meet with Vicki Jack and Marty and make a plan.

Vicki said she and Joan did not agree to become education chairs on this project. We also now have concerns as to privacy issues until ACBL provides clarification. Vicki is happy to work with Jack, Marty, Tom and Bob.

Approval of Election Committee – Judy (for Joan Sheldon)

Judy moved that the following individuals be approved as the 2015 DBAA Election Committee:

- Joan Sheldon – Chair, Mike Sheldon, Jill Riddle, Becky Butler, Ann Ballard, Janet Sherwood and Joe Sherwood.

Motion approved.

The DBAA officers for 2015-17 are running unopposed and will not be on the ballot:

- Marty Nathan – President
- Judy Fendrick – Vice President
- Jan Noll – Secretary
- George Powell – Treasurer

There are 7 candidates running for 4 Unit Rep positions who will be on the ballot: Joan Braender, Joan Duffy, Jack Feagin, Roz Howell, Bob Jones, Janice Ripley and Larry Rich.

Joan has created the ballot, obtained the listing of eligible voters who reside in the 6-county DBAA area, requested bios from the candidates and contacted club managers to schedule voting in their clubs. She will also provide an article that includes information for absentee ballots and voting in clubs to Mary Ann for the newsletter.

Mentoring Program – Roz

Roz reported that mentoring is underway in the DBAA area clubs. Her impression thus far is that January is not a good month to run the mentoring program.

District 7 Meeting – Dick (for Marty)

Dick reported that Marty had reported at the District 7 meeting in Charleston that those in favor of the new Atlanta Unit were able to get a sufficient number of signatures to meet the ACBL requirements. Dick also stated that there was a vote by the District 7 board of 11:7 in favor of Atlanta forming a new Unit.

New Unit Update – Judy (for Marty)

Judy reiterated what had previously been provided by Marty in his e-mail to the board and others dated December 29 that we obtained more than the required number of signatures, and we are in a holding pattern until ACBL completes its verification of the signatures and reviews any issues with District 7 and Unit 114 personnel.

Bridge Marketing/Learn Bridge in a Day – Jack

Jack believes ACBL needs to target people to play bridge, primarily those between the age of 25-55 who work. ACBL thinks this is not a marketable target audience. Jack and Patty have had several discussions; they want to have a "Learn Bridge in a Day" at the Regional on the Saturday during the tournament and try and market it. Jack wants to use social media to get players into clubs for teaching.

At this time Jack thinks there would be no cost to DBAA unless we do extra advertising for "Learn Bridge in a Day."

George asked if there has been any follow up of the LBIAD at the NABC.

Change of Rank Parties – Judy

Judy stated that we will follow our Change of Rank Procedures and hold the parties in March. She will prepare the Change of Rank listings and flyers and send to the clubs in mid-February, and also send an article to Mary Ann for the newsletter.

New Business

Increase Sectional Tournament Table Fee – Dick

Dick proposed that DBAA raise the table fee at the Atlanta Sectional tournaments from \$10 to \$11 because we had net losses from tournaments in 2014. Table counts are down and Dick has cut expenses as much as he can. *Dick moved that the table fee for Sectional tournaments be raised to \$11.* The board asked Dick for a budget for the Roswell tournament and also what do other large metropolitan cities around the country charge for Sectional tournaments. Dick will provide a budget.

Jack stated that tournaments are supposed to make a little money, and that our budget should be more pessimistic, i.e., project lower revenue and adjust expenses accordingly. George noted that BCA and Alpharetta run games during our Sectional tournaments.

Judy requested to amend Dick's motion to consider reducing expenses further before we raise the fee to \$11. She suggested we take a closer look at expenses, and we need a full report and proposed budget to be able to make an informed decision.

Other suggestions from board were:

- Charge \$1 for coffee and soft drinks in lieu of raising the fee.
- We serve lunch as a convenience at the Roswell tournament; we need to review costs there. Dick says he has cut this as much as possible already.
- Advertise the tournaments more.

The motion and the amendment to the motion both failed.

DBAA Annual Membership Meeting – Judy

Judy requested the board's decision on the time and place of the DBAA's annual membership meeting, as required by the DBAA By-Laws. The Unit website shows their annual membership meeting is scheduled for February 8, but we do not know whether it will be before the start of the game or during the lunch break.

A motion was made to hold the DBAA annual meeting on February 8 prior to game time. Motion approved.

Subsequent to the DBAA meeting, Ken Parker confirmed that the Unit meeting will be during the lunch break on February 8. Thus, it makes sense for DBAA to hold its meeting at that time following the Unit's meeting.

Action Item: Judy will send an announcement of the meeting, as required by the By-Laws, to each club manager for posting at their club and also to Betty to have Larry post to the DBAA website.

Atlanta Junior Bridge (AJB) Funding Request – Judy (for Patty Tucker)

Patty requested \$2,500 in funding for 2015 from the DBAA. The documents Patty submitted with her request were e-mailed to the board prior to the meeting. Unit 114 has already approved a \$4,000 funding request for AJB for 2015.

Marty sent Patty an e-mail in December with questions about the funding request and AJB operations. Patty's computer crashed in December, so she never got Marty's message. Marty resent the message to Patty recently. Since we have limited information to make a decision, it was recommended that we table this discussion and vote until our next meeting.

A motion was made to table Patty Tucker's funding request until our next meeting. Motion approved.

DBAA Game – Jack

Jack received a request from Sam Marks for DBAA to consider changing the location of the DBAA game from the Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Center (ADBC) to Bridge Club of Atlanta (BCA) now that Ina will no longer have a Wednesday night game at BCA.

Jack thinks the game would eventually be profitable at Sam's due to the location, and we could run a separate limited game.

George said Marty has been considering that we need to move the DBAA game, possibly to BCA. George suggested a committee should review whether to move the DBAA game. *A motion was made to have a committee review the pros and cons of moving the DBAA game from its current location at Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Center. Motion approved.*

The committee to review the pros and cons of moving the DBAA game will be Roz, George, Becky and Jack.

Next DBAA Meeting: Saturday, February 28, 9:30 am at Bridge Club of Atlanta.

Motion to adjourn approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Fendrick, Secretary