

APPROVED

**Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta
Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2015 – 9:30-11:30
Bridge Club of Atlanta**

Present:

Officers: Marty Nathan, President; George Powell Treasurer; Jan Noll, Secretary **Unit Reps:** Vicki Bell, Jack Feagin, Joan Duffy, Becky Butler, Dick Myers **Guests:** Joan Sheldon, Ron Torre

Absent: Roz Howell, Janice Ripley, Judy Fendrick, Josie Mitchell

Marty Nathan called the meeting to order at 9:30, welcomed new members and thanked outgoing members Bob Jones, Mary Ann Oakley, and Larry Rich for their contributions, with special thanks to Mary Ann for getting the newsletter launched.

Prior Meeting Minutes – Jan

A motion was made to approve both the January 10, 2015 minutes and the February 8, 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report – George

George provided the 2014 Receipts and Disbursements Report with Financial highlights, as well as a P&L for the first 2 months of 2015, including the Financial Report for the same time period in emails to Board and Directors prior to the meeting.

- Computers were listed as administrative, not project/program expense. Marty believes the computers should be reclassified as project/program expense.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's 2014 report with the reclassification made to computer expense. The 2014 report was approved.

- Becky - there is a \$15 amount that needs to be returned from Regional Tournament. Marty suggested it be put in reserve account and the MABC so notified.
- The 2nd set of reports focused on 1st 2 months of 2015. All mentoring for January is in – 143 mentor sessions but that number doesn't tell the number of people mentored (some were mentored by more than one Life Master) – 103 is number of free plays redeemed – still about 40 out. Ultimately, we bill Unit 114, so statement just shows expenses. Bill sent to Unit 114 for tournament, Sportsman of the Year, and election costs and should be reimbursed shortly. Social bridge program expenses were \$430, taken from grant, of which \$30 was redeemed in free plays.
- George has filed 1099's, 1096's; corporate recertification is not yet completed.

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- George raised a concern over the fact that we report that our statements are done on a cash basis when they are actually done on an accrual basis. Statements are accruals, not cash basis; when the accountant was asked about changing this last year, he said no; tournament reserve is most significant item that is accrued. Marty suggested we postpone the decision until the new unit is formed and decide on at next meeting.

Election Results – Joan Sheldon

- Voting was down from previous years – 195 voted in the clubs, 94 at the tournament, 4 absentee – 293 votes (10% of the population).
- Suggested on-line voting might be a way to improve participation in the future.
- Discussion was held regarding Club Owners “campaigning” for the elections. It was agreed that Marty would discuss with the offending parties.

Committee Members – Marty

Marty proposed we delay until May meeting filling any Committee slots until new unit has been finally decided, other than a few that can be handled as part of committee reports.

New Unit Update - Marty

- ACBL did verify sufficient signatures, and vote will be taken in March by ACBL Board in New Orleans. When that occurs, there will be a lot of work to do if a new unit to be created. Current DBAA by-laws, procedures, unit procedures can be used as a basis for new unit - hope to have a lot of people involved in helping with the process.
- Marty is working on some transition issues, including bylaws to comply with ACBL requirement. These will be sent for review if/when new unit is approved.
- Type of classification (501c3, c4, c7 or other) needs to be decided, working with attorney, Ed Hales;
- Unit President has made it known to District President he will make rapid changes to District 7 board. When would we get our representation on the District 7 board? Marty is trying to get an answer.
- The ACBL is not specific on transition issues – their effective date is the date they approve, even though we won't have the new legal entity formed for a month or so
- Organizing committee selects initial officers and directors, and at some period thereafter, elections will be held;
- Once the new corporation is formed, current DBAA board and directors will become new unit board and directors – we would likely wait until normal cycle of February to hold elections. Do we want to continue to have staggered elections?
- It will take a while to do the transition, but it was recommended to keep rules the same unless reason to change. Key issue to decide is what will be future of DBAA. Marty is asking that we make this decision now on the assumption that approval will take place.
- The Motion before board, which was sent to all board members prior to the meeting :

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The President is authorized to work with legal counsel to make the DBAA and the new Atlanta unit of the ACBL one and the same. This may be done by merger of the DBAA into a corporation that is the new unit or by the DBAA becoming the new unit or by some similar mechanism that legal counsel may recommend. The resulting non-profit corporation would be called the "Duplicate Association of Atlanta". This authorization is predicated on the ACBL Board of Directors approving an Atlanta Unit in March 2015.

- Discussion on motion. Need to vote on merging assets and name.
- Name of new organization was agreed to be Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta

The motion was unanimously approved.

Mentoring results – Marty (in Roz's absence)

Suggestions were made by members to consider how we can improve next year: Reconsider free plays beyond the day of play; should be a series of events; January not a particularly good month; limit on number of times one person can mentor different people; better guidelines for mentors; work with Club Managers.

AJB Funding Request

Since Patty Tucker was not in attendance, this was tabled for one more meeting.

Change of Rank Party

We should discuss at our next meeting what can be done better

Tournaments – Dick

- Roswell Sectional - Board did not approve increase in entry fee to \$11. Budget was to lose \$1938., but we lost \$2353. Since there were more tables, we paid for more directors, but we spent the same amount for food to feed 86 more tables. If we had charged the dollar more, we would have netted a profit. A question was raised as to whether we should have tournament in November. There was a recommendation to cut out breakfast. Options include changing schedule to give 2 hour break, but parking is still an issue. Marty said we made a decision 5-6 years ago that some tournaments would have losses; we set up reserve fund to deal with this. Current reserve is \$1200. One more tournament will wipe out reserves.
- Tournament operations committee – this new committee will work with tournament chairs – responsible for oversight to review budgets, make suggestions, etc. Jack will chair committee to include Judy, Becky, and Vicki.

A motion was made and approved to form Tournament Operations Committee.

- Dick asked for board approval to proceed with November tournament and raise entry price \$1. Marty thinks we need to be consistent with pricing. Do we start in May? Jack wants to change for May. Flyer does not have cost on it. Vicki asked for clarification – place for Roswell.

A motion was made to start fee increase of \$1 in May. The motion passed.

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- Dick and Jack are putting together budget for the May tournament – this should be prepared 30 days in advance of the tournament. Dick will remove breakfast as an expense for the November tournament.
- Dick is retiring effective with the November sectional.

A motion was made to replace Dick with Ron Torre, with Dick as co-chair for the November Sectional. The Motion was approved.

- Dick is looking ahead for committee – use of the Trade Center was very controversial – need to make a decision for next summer tournaments within a few months. 4th of July is less desirable time for us.
- Vicki has done an outstanding job on the problem of providing boards to sectionals. We do not get enough boards from MABC. MACB admits there is an issue. But, we pay the MABC to supply boards. Also, there is a problem getting people to pre-duplicate the boards. Vicki is continuing to work on this issue

Update on DBAA game – Jack Feagin

- There are two committees – an ad hoc one strictly to determine best location for the game.
- The second committee was formed for ongoing operations. The operations committee agreed to raise the price on Wednesday night game –to \$9 to put the game in the black. The decision on the game location will not be made within the next month or two.

On line directory

- We have been working on this since May, but it is not working well – 650 out of 1500 members signed up, but less than half of the 650 completed the steps. We have decided to go in different direction, since current approach would have to be maintained with a cost, and there are further complications with the change in the ACBL privacy policy.

A motion was made to add Garry Williams to this committee. The new committee would be composed of Vicki, Judy, Donna Schmidt and Garry. The motion was approved.

Next DBAA Meeting: Saturday, May 2 9:30 am at the Bridge Club of Atlanta

Meeting was adjourned at 11:28.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Noll, Secretary