

Approved
Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta
Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: November 15, 2013 – 5:30 – 7:15 pm

Location: Roswell Adult Recreation Center

Present: Marty Nathan, Mary Ann Oakley, George Powell, Judy Fendrick, Jack Feagin, Dick Myers, Roz Howell and Bob Jones

Invited Guests:

Betty Myers, DBAA Website Chair
Bob Heller, Director, District 7
Ken Parker, Unit 114 Vice President
Donna Parker, Unit Election Chair
Tom Eidson, Electronic Directory Project Developer

Absent: Vicki Bell, Larry Rich and Allison Milhem

Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – Judy Fendrick

Roz moved to approve the October 5 meeting minutes. *Motion approved.*

Treasurer's Report – George Powell

George submitted the September 30 Comparative Balance Sheet and the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements to the board prior to the meeting. Questions regarding the statements were addressed during the meeting. Dick moved to approve the financial statements. *Motion approved.*

Judy reported on the DBAA Financial Review that she and Bob Holman completed of the DBAA's financial records for 2012. Per request from Marty, Judy will submit the report for posting to the DBAA website.

Atlanta Junior Bridge – Marty Nathan (for Patty Tucker)

Patty submitted a request to Marty prior to the meeting for assistance with advertising for an AJB fund raising initiative she has set up with Marty Bergen. Through December 31, 2013, Marty will offer his books to be sold at significant discounts with 12% of the proceeds to go to AJB. A flyer with details is available.

Action Item: Marty will send out a supplement to the DBAA Newsletter to advertise this initiative. In addition, we will post this to the DBAA website.

Unit 114 Election – Donna Parker

Donna reported there are 5 Unit Rep positions open, and 3 people have submitted their nominations. The deadline for nominations is January 30, 2014. An announcement of the election and deadline was included in the latest District 7 Newsletter. Donna also sent a message to all club managers with the notice of elections.

Marty requested that we talk to individuals we believe would be good candidates to see if they're interested in running for a Unit Rep position.

Mentoring Program – Roz Howell

Roz proposed that DBAA sponsor a mentoring program during February. She recommends that we have a long-term mentoring program, but for now having it in one month is good. It was proposed that DBAA pay for up to four free plays for the mentor that can be used at any club, and will expire at the end of April. Mentors can play with Non-Life Masters; partnerships can be set up through a sign-up sheet at the club or individually. Clubs will not be expected to hold a party.

Action Item: Roz will send her proposal for the mentoring program to the board for review and comments.

Newsletter – Mary Ann Oakley

Patty Nathan is now formatting the newsletter with Microsoft Publisher. Mary Ann sends the edited version to Patty for formatting. The next newsletter will be published in January. Articles are due by January 15 at the latest.

DBAA has 1,486 subscribers, but many of these individuals do not open the newsletter.

We need to ensure we have all newsletters archived on the DBAA website.

Action Item: Betty will have the older newsletters posted.

Policies and Procedures – Dick Myers

Dick pointed out that Article IV, paragraph D of our current Policies and Procedures provides that if we have a food guarantee at the site, the tournament chair will give each player two \$1.50 food and beverage coupons per event unless we are providing food that day. Dick believes the tournament chair should have flexibility to make this kind of decision and should not have such a mandate from the board.

After a brief discussion, Bob Jones moved to modify the Policies and Procedures to remove paragraph D from the Policies and Procedures. Roz seconded the motion. *Motion approved.*

Action Item: Once an electronic version of the Policies and Procedures is obtained, Mary Ann will update the Policies and Procedures to remove Article IV, paragraph D, and also remove Article VIII regarding election procedures, per recommendation from the Election Committee.

Tournaments – Dick Myers

Dick requested the board to approve a \$50 additional payment to the caterer for the meal provided to the board. The board approved the payment.

Tournament attendance at this sectional is almost even with last year's Fall Sectional at this time. Attendance at night-time bridge events continues to be low.

Dick has signed a contract with Roswell Parks and Recreation for the Spring Sectional to be held February 26-March 4, 2014.

He has also signed a contract with the North Atlanta Trade Center for the Summer Sectional in July, 2014. This venue has 14 acres of parking, all events are on one floor, the lighting is excellent, and there is a snack bar. He will budget for a free meal on Friday night (July 4th) and also provide food coupons. The rent will be \$9,000, which includes all set up.

The 2014 Fall Sectional is scheduled to be held in Roswell.

Olin Hubert is retiring in March; Nancy Watkins will be the Tournament Director thereafter.

Bob Heller mentioned that there will be a Regional in Callaway Gardens in 2015, and we will need to adjust Spring Sectionals in relation to this.

Jack mentioned that the ABA is having their national tournament the first week of August, 2014 at Crowne Plaza Ravinia. Bob mentioned there may also be a Birmingham Regional that month as well.

DBAA Electronic Directory Project – Tom Eidson

Tom has developed an on-line program that can be used to capture DBAA membership data for name, phone, e-mail, ACBL number, and other data such as the club where the person generally plays.

This will be set up as a secure database, and may be through the ACBL website. The new ACBLscore site will have this type of data in a database.

In conjunction with this, Tom has also created a way to use a webcam at tournaments to get pictures of bridge winners that can be stored electronically.

The board decided to create a DBAA committee to explore the options for this on-line database.

Action Item: Bob Jones, Dick Myers and Marty Nathan volunteered for the committee, with Bob as chair. Donna Schmid was added to the committee subsequent to the meeting.

Unit Reps and DBAA By-Laws – Marty Nathan

Marty wants a By-Laws committee to review how to maximize participation on the DBAA board. In particular, we have situation now in which Roz Howell was elected for a two-year term as a Unit Rep, and she was also appointed as the Unit 114 Secretary. This results in Roz having only one vote at Unit meetings, and means there is one less person available as a volunteer.

Bob Jones thinks the Unit should resolve the issue by amending their By-Laws. The Unit is, in fact, starting a process with Mike Kovacich to review their by-laws.

Jack suggested we amend the DBAA By-Laws.

Marty previously asked Ralph Folkerts to serve as committee chair for DBAA By-Laws review. At the meeting, Judy and Bob Jones volunteered to serve on the committee, which will coordinate with the Unit's By-Laws Committee. The next opportunity for a regularly-scheduled membership meeting to be able to vote on Unit and/or DBAA By-Laws changes will be at the Roswell Sectional at the end of February, 2014.

Due to schedule conflicts, the DBAA By-Laws committee may be unable to meet until early January. The committee will plan to meet and get started, but the deadline to have a final recommendations to the board and final By-Laws updates, if any, may not be met by late February.

Action Item: The DBAA By-Laws committee will meet as soon as possible to get started on the review.

Special Events at Regionals – Marty Nathan

As follow up from our last meeting, Marty requested volunteers for a committee to review plans for special events at Regionals, such as TAP, Social Bridge games and other events.

Action Item: Jack, Roz and Marty volunteered for the Regional Special Events committee, with Marty as chair.

Election Chair – Marty Nathan

Marty has asked several people to chair the upcoming elections, but as of yet, no one is available.

Action Item: Marty will check with Janet Sherwood about being the election chair.

Next DBAA Meeting: January 11, 9:30-11:30, at Bridge Club of Atlanta.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Fendrick, Secretary