

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
August 10, 2020

Present: Jerry Harrington, Karen Fillis, Jeanne Dawley, Ed Rawlinson,  
Joe Ramirez, John Hilbig, Beth Gale, Rich Lampman, Roxi Raaf, and Jeri Tribo  
Present by FaceTime: Jon Tramer  
Guests: Laurie Levin and Steve Simpson

Jerry Harrington, President, called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM. Roxi moved to approve the minutes from July 13, 2020. Karen seconded. Motion carried.

No Treasurer's report due to Karen's broken wrist.

Membership Chair, Jeanne Dawley, reported that membership was going down. She speculated that a lot of members do not want to play bridge on-line. She suggested that the Unit send out an e-mail blast to encourage people to play. ACBL has a link to BBO to help players navigate the game.

Mentor-Mentee Chair, Roxi Raaf, reported that there were 8 drop outs in the program chiefly because novice players do not want to play on-line. There are 16 pairs still participating, but only 3 games, to date. Roxi said that she would call people to encourage them to continue playing.

Regional

1. Jerry Harrington called the Omni about the Regional. The Event Planner is now Tania Cuellar. The Board is concerned about the Unit's contractual obligations if we are unable to host the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Regional 2021. He believes that there are monthly increments when you can bail out. Jerry plans to set up a meeting with Tania.
2. Rich Lampman (Regional Chairs for 2021) said that the Saturday attendance for the last Regional was poor due to the KO's. Rich distributed copies of the schedule from the 2019 Regional. Ed Rawlinson suggested that we drop the 3-session KO's due to the low turn-out.

Karen Fillis inquired about the January Tournament that was held at the Drury last year. We have no contract with them, and their prices have increased since our tournament. Therefore, Laurie Levine will host the tournament at Fiesta BC if

they can open. Jerry will notify Roxie and Nancy Tom that they will no longer be chairing the event and be sure that they have not contracted with the Drury.

### Election Update

Joe Ramirez, Chair, will send out ballots to members to vote by email (preferable) or snail mail. He mentioned that about 20% do not do email. Joe (or Roxi Raaf) will send ballots by bulk mail to those who do not have a computer. Members must include their ACBL number with their ballot and send them to Joe. Ballots must be received by October 18 to be valid. Snail mail ballots must be postmarked by October 12. Ed Rawlinson will include the bios of the 5 candidates in the “Winning Finesse” before the ballots are mailed. There will be a link on the email blast to the “Winning Finesse.”

### Lease Discussion

Laurie Levine reported that the owner of the building wants to continue leasing the facility to Fiesta Bridge Club. However, she said that she could not afford to pay the \$3000 per month in addition to utilities, water, insurance, and security without the income from her sectional tournaments and daily games. BBO is not covering all her expenses. Further discussion in September.

### Investments

Joe Ramirez recommended that the Board should implement a strategy on how we manage our assets. Discussion followed. Jerry Harrington, as president, is not comfortable managing investments for the Unit. He suggested that we divide our money into 3 funds and presented 3 possible choices—Fidelity Balanced Fund, Fidelity Capital & Income Fund, and Fidelity Contrafund. More discussion. To summarize, our fiduciary responsibility as a non-profit organization is to be a caretaker and to preserve our funds to keep pace with inflation.

1. John Hilbig moved that we sell our current individual stocks and put the proceeds into a Unit mutual fund, to be determined at the next board meeting. Joe Ramirez seconded. Motion carried. (Note: The stocks will be sold when a mutual fund is purchased.)
2. Joe Ramirez moved that the Board have an investment policy codified in the Unit’s Procedure manual. Roxi Raaf seconded. Motion carried. Joe submitted a policy which will be reviewed and revised.

District Task Force

Laurie Levine reported that she is on a task force to explore ways to increase membership. The committee meets weekly and would like to have suggestions. Ed Rawlinson recommended that the District set up a process to collect successful practices of clubs and share with the Units in the District.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeri Tribo  
Secretary