

## BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

September 14, 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

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Jerry Harrington, President. Beth Gale moved to approve the August minutes, seconded by Karen Fillis. Motion carried.

**Treasurer**, Karen Fillis, emailed her report. There were no questions.

**Membership Chair**, Jeanne Dawley, reported membership was declining, with a total, to date, of 553 members. Discussion followed with suggestions on ways to encourage new players to play in the BBO games. Free play coupons to transfers-in and new players was one suggestion, as we have done in the past for face-to-face games at the bridge clubs. The following members volunteered to help with BBO: Jerry, Roxi, Joe, John, Jeanne, and Laurie.

**Education Chair**, Joe Ramirez, suggested we have zoom meetings after the game to discuss hands of the day. Steve Simpson could put a link for interested players. Joe would be the host and Larry Levine would be the expert on Wednesdays.

**Mentor-Mentee Chair**, Roxi Raaf, reported that she called people in the program about playing on-line. Seven are not interested at all.

**Unit Games** have been canceled through February 2021. ACBL warned that no Unit should sign any new contracts. Ed Rawlinson mentioned that knowledgeable sources told him that games in March and April 2021 also may be canceled. The Unit already has a signed contract for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Regional 2021 at the Omni. According to the contract, we may be liable for a substantial penalty if we cancel. Jerry Harrington and Rich Lampman plan to talk to the Omni. Discussion about the Kerrville Tournament in April 2021 followed, questioning whether we had a signed contract with them. Karen Fillis was asked to contact the Kerrville people

to inquire whether we have a signed contract and if we do, check on cancellation provisions.

**Election Update & “Winning Finesse:”** Ed Rawlinson distributed copies of the “Winning Finesse” which he writes. The bios of the candidates are in this current article. Election Chair, Joe Ramirez, will send out ballots on September 25,2020, by e-mail or snail mail for the 80 people who do not have a computer. The ballots must be returned to Joe no later than October 14,2020.

Rich Lampman moved that we have the next board meeting on October 19 and invite newly elected board members to attend the meeting at Fiesta BC; Jeanne Dawley seconded; motion carried.

**Follow-up on Fiesta BC Lease:** Laurie Levine said that she cannot sign any new lease while the quarantine is in effect. She still pays rent, electricity, water, and security with no income. The owners may try to find someone else to lease the building. Laurie distributed lists of players who are not playing on-line to each board member to call to encourage them to play BBO and offer help logging on.

**Investment Strategy:** Jerry Harrington distributed copies of various mutual funds for the Board to consider. John Hilbig moved that we invest 70% in Fidelity Puritan Fund and 30% in Fidelity Blue Chip Growth Fund with dividends being reinvested, keeping \$1000 in the money market fund. Joe Ramirez seconded the motion; motion carried.

Joe Ramirez suggested that we look at our distribution of assets every 6 months. Karen Fillis moved that we accept a change in the Policy Manual as submitted by Ed Rawlinson. The Investment Policy will state, “Unit funds necessary for the activities of the Unit shall be maintained in a bank checking account. Surplus funds may be invested in mutual funds approved by the Board. The Treasurer shall report the status of such funds monthly to the Board.” Rich Lampman seconded the motion; motion carried.

**District 16 Unit Rep:** The Board selected Ed Rawlinson to be the new Unit Rep. Ed mentioned that he suggested to the District Board several months ago that they should have a policy book like our Unit has.

**Serious Membership Problem:** Ed Rawlinson moved that for the next 5 months we use the In-Out Report to communicate to new players to the Unit that they may have 3 free play coupons along with their partner/ambassador to play in the BBO Mid TX Alliance games. John Hilbig seconded the motion; motion carried. Roxi Raaf said that she would keep an Ambassador list for those players who need a partner.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeri Tribo  
Secretary