

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

April 12, 2021

Present: Jerry Harrington, Rosemary Kelley, Karen Fillis, Jeri Tribo, Jeanne Dawley, Ed Rawlinson, John Hilbig, Jon Tramer, Joe Ramirez, Roxi Raaf

Absent: Lisa Talcott

Guests: Laurie Levin, Steve Simpson, Everette Lewis, Rich Lampman

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Rosemary Kelley at 2:00. (President Jerry Harrington was delayed by traffic.) Karen Fillis moved to approve the minutes from March 8, 2021; Jeanne Dawley seconded; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Fillis reported that she moved \$6,000 from Fidelity to BBVA to cover the Omni deposit and expected expenses. She did some research into moving the Unit's bank account so we don't have to maintain a \$5000 minimum balance in each of the checking and money market accounts. According to the Unit's tax returns we are a 501.c.4. Some banks offer 501.c.3 charities no minimum balance. She requested a copy of our charity approval from the IRS since we no longer have the original approval.

Membership: Jeanne Dawley reported that we got one new member after sending out recruitment letters. She also added that people have dropped out because they do not want to play bridge on-line. She expressed that, hopefully, they will come back when we're playing again in person. In response to ACBL, she reaffirmed the officers on our Board.

(Note: President Jerry Harrington took over the meeting at 2:30 and we continued with items on his agenda.)

Education: Joe Ramirez reported that attendance at the zoom meetings on Wednesdays have been low and questioned whether it was worthwhile to continue them. Jerry Harrington suggested we give it another month to see if attendance picks up.

Mentor-Mentee: Roxi Raaf reported that there was no change. There are 7 active pairs, and \$110 was reimbursed to Mentors for 21 games in the last quarter.

TOURNAMENTS

Regional: Rich Lampman and Karen Fillis both asked Jerry Harrington for a copy of the contract with the Omni. The Regional is scheduled for December 17-23, 2021, which were the only dates the Omni could give us. There is no competition at that time with other Units. We have the advantage of free parking that Austin does not have for the Nationals at the Marriott just 3 weeks earlier. Publicity initiatives were discussed. Among them players at the Austin Nationals wear badges, a booth, and sponsoring a game for \$2,000. No decision was made.

Roxi Raaf, I-N Chair, reported that she arranged for the following experts to be the speakers—Daniel Jackson (Finesses on Defense), Rosemary Kelley, Thomas Rush, Larry Levine, and Hank Eng (finer points on negative doubles). To date, only the two have selected their topic.

Election Sectional: Karen Fillis asked about the Luau in August which is the annual meeting where candidates for election are announced. (The candidates will be announced during the Fiesta Sectional August 18-21, and the Election Sectional will be October 7-10 at Fiesta Bridge Club.) Ed reported that we have sanctions for all the usual tournaments through 2024, but the location of the Sectional/NAP is an issue.

Unit Game May 1, 2021: Hosts are Rosemary Kelley and Karen Fillis, and Rosemary will also be the Director. The field is limited to 35 pairs and masks will be required to meet Covid precautions. The game will be at the Fiesta Bridge. No fees will be charged, courtesy of Unit 172 and Fiesta Bridge Club. For more information, see the flier on the Unit web site.

A lively discussion followed about vaccinations and wearing masks. Dr. Jon Tramer, after consulting with a disease specialist, mentioned that if you are vaccinated, masks are optional.

All older people and those with medical conditions should be vaccinated. As the owner of Fiesta Bridge Club, Laurie can require vaccinations to play in her club game. Most of the players signed up to the Unit game have been vaccinated.

New Braunfels Sectional: Flyer has been approved. Entry fees will be \$10 a session and \$120 for Sunday brunch. Food will be packaged. Karen Fillis mentioned that the trailer has to be inspected and the license renewed before the Sectional.

Fiesta Lease Update: Laurie Levin reported that building is up for sale, but the price is high so the owner is not hopeful for success. Laurie mentioned that she will open Fiesta for in-person bridge on Mondays and Fridays as a trial run starting May 17 at 11 am. She will continue on-line games too.

Nominating Committee: Two board members and one non-board member are required to serve on the committee. The two board members will be Jeanne Dawley and Jeri Tribo; non-board member will be Lew Spurlock. Expired terms for October 2021 are Jerry Harrington, Karen Fillis, Jeri Tribo, and Jeanne Dawley.

Texas Star Award: The Board awarded the Star to Everette Lewis. He thanked the Board for nominating him.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30. The next meeting will be Monday, May 10, 2021 at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeri Tribo
Secretary