

SAN ANTONIO BRIDGE LEAGUE UNIT 172

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

February 5, 2024

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:34 pm by Nancy Tom. **Present:** Nancy Tom, Roxana Tom, Sharon Evans, Karen Fillis, Ed Rawlinson, David Mitchell, Jo Neesvig, Ellen Hessel, Rebecca Evans. **Absent:** Susan Hernandez and Everette Lewis. **Guests:** Laurie Levin, Steve Simpson, and Rosemary Kelley.

Minutes: Roxana Tom moved to approve the minutes from January 8, 2024, David Mitchell seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sharon Evans prepared and presented the Treasurer's Report for January. Total Assets are \$89,074.55. Ed Rawlinson requested that the allocation for NAPS and Sectional Expenses be corrected specifically for the Sunday lunch. Karen Fillis suggested that the rental for the Shrine Auditorium be allocated \$1750 to Sectional and \$3250 to NAPS because we would not need the extra space if the NAPS could be held at St. Thomas on a Friday and Saturday. Roxana Tom suggested that the director expenses were not allocated correctly on Scott and Kevin's reports. Subsequent to the meeting, Sharon reallocated expenses and sent the report to all board members. This did not change the monthly financial statement posted to the website, only the Cash Flow by tag (event).

Committee Reports:

Regional Committee: This item was taken out of order so Rosemary Kelley, committee chair, could be excused early. Rosemary presented her committee list and got a few more volunteers. Ed Rawlinson confirmed that we have all necessary sanctions for the Regional. Nancy will notify ACBL that Rosemary Kelly is the chair. Nancy will prepare the flyer once the schedule is approved by the Board. There is a meeting Friday after Fiesta bridge game at Fish City Grill to discuss the schedule. Rosemary is seeking donations for a silent auction during the tournament and requested a charity to donate the proceeds to. Ellen Hessel recommended the San Antonio Assistance League, which was approved by the Board. Karen Fillis volunteered to do tournament supplies and will purchase any necessary items, including First Aid supplies. Rosemary asked if we should have Covid tests available at the tournament, but the decision was no. Rosemary requested that she be able to purchase another 25 sets of plastic bidding box inserts. She advised the Board that all blue bidding boxes have plastic inserts and will hold up much better than the cardboard inserts. Rosemary was given permission to recruit sponsors to have events like crackers and cheese or morning snacks, but the Unit has a policy of no alcohol because of potential liability. Rosemary is also looking at different items for gift bags such as pre-threaded needles. Karen will send Rosemary a copy of the free-play list from the last Regional. Ed Rawlinson reminded us that there is a free-play list in the Policy Manual Section 3-1. Rosemary asked if the District had waived their fees for our tournament in 2025. The District waived fees for 2023 and 2024, but not 2025 as of now. Rosemary would like to see a copy of the contract with Drury before it is signed. Sharon will get a copy to her as soon as it is received from the Drury. Rosemary expressed concern about areas for directors, prizes, hospitality, partnership, vendors, water stations and coffee, and silent auction.

Membership: 0 new member, 1 transfer in and 1 transfer out. Total membership 451. Nancy brought up the subject of how to set goals for new members, which is a difficult challenge. Rebecca is recruiting

committee members to try and recruit new members and encourage newer players. We are going to have a Learn Bridge in a Day event at the Unity Church in New Braunfels in April. Rosemary, Roxana, and Ann Kuehler are working on it.

Education: Laurie Levin has an intermediate class at the Jewish Community Center on Thursdays with about 20 students. Steve has a 299 game every week and includes some guidance for the players.

Mentor/Mentee: Currently have 13 Mentor/Mentee pairs and 10 Tiered mentoring pairs. Rebecca is trying to grow the beginner program.

Partnership: Nothing to report.

Unit Games:

February 17: Laurie has a two-session 499 game at the Jewish Community Center. Flyers have been emailed to 499 players in our Unit.

March 9 Awards Day: Karen and Susan are co-chair. Larry Levin will Direct. Bob Otis will be making 4 sets of boards in case we need a web movement. Laurie will pick up the boards from Freddie. Karen will have a microphone for Nancy. We have the New Life Master Pins, Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKinney winners will get certificates, which Nancy will print. Ed will get the plaques engraved for Horton-Gray and Paul Lewis Awards.

May 11 and July 27: Team games. Tom Marsh does not want to Direct. Nancy will ask Rich Lampman if he would be willing to Direct.

Tournaments:

Ed Rawlinson Winter Sectional: The Unit will get a \$1,000 rebate from District 16 because our loss was more than \$1,000. Lynn Baker sent a very complimentary letter to bridgewinners.com about the kind treatment Olivia Schireson (age 18) received from players and tournament organizers after earning her Life Master at the Sectional.

New Braunfels Sectional: Ann Kuehler volunteered to chair. Her committee is co-chair Cindy Cummings, hospitality Elisabeth Kay, partnership Rita de la Hoya.

Scorecard: Article will be submitted on time.

Winning Finesse: Will be mailed this week.

President's Online Meeting: Nancy has been attending the meetings. Nancy will send Board members the link to update the 5/5/5 list. We reviewed the current list. Rebecca Lu Tanner is deceased. Catherine McGaffic is renewing, Tom Marsh is unsure at this time. Nancy said she would be willing to update the list if we let her know of any changes so we can get the extra reimbursement. ACBL is having trouble meeting their room requirements for the NABC's so they have begun a promotion offering 2 nights free after 2 paid nights. Also offering discounts to players who stay in the host hotel and use express pay to purchase their entries. There was also mention of the STAC fees. Steve Simpson said Fiesta pays \$6 per table for STAC games but ACBL said there is a sliding scale. Unit 172 does not get any fees for STAC games.

Old Business:

Directory: update by next meeting.

Free-play cards: Free-play cards were approved for March 1 to May 31 and must be used by June 30 on a motion made by Sharon Evans and seconded by Rebecca Evans. Karen will send the template to Nancy for printing. The dates will need to be changed on the template.

Trailer Repair: Repairs by Magnum have been completed and Freddie is working on the shelving. Nancy will check with Freddie to see if there were any leaks during the recent rains. Magnum should warranty their work.

Bridge Mates: Roxana presented prices for new Bridge Mates. On a motion made by Karen Fillis and seconded by Ellen Hessel, the Board approved the purchase of 40 Bridgemate II, 3 servers and 3 carrying cases.

Policy Manual Update: Ed will prepare proposed changes at the next Board meeting. Any Board approved changes will be presented at the annual meeting in August at the Luau.

NAPS: Austin will host NAPS in 2025. The District will not consider holding the NAPS on a Friday and Saturday at this time.

Audit Report: The audit report has been completed by John Hilbig and a letter submitted to the the Unit approving the accounting records for 2023.

New Business:

District 16 Board meeting: Ed Rawlinson attended the District Board meeting in Houston and presented a summary. Ed resigned at Unit 172 representative to the District. Nancy appointed Roxana Tom to replace Ed, and Ellen Hessel as an alternate.

Regional/Sectional setup and tear down: Nancy requested that all board members be willing and available to set up and tear down at the Regional and Sectional events. It's a lot of work and assistance is appreciated.

Club games: Ellen Hessel suggested we look at office space to hold club games and revisit the idea of a place of have bridge games on evenings and weekends. Laurie would like to be able to have more games, but the cost is prohibitive. There was discussion about the Unit buying or renting space, but the discussion was tabled.

Flyers: Nancy presented flyers for the 2024 Unit games and Sectionals. Karen approved the flyer for Awards Day, Karen will submit to Joe Ramirez to be emailed by Pianola 2 weeks before the event. The Roxana Tom Sectional flyer was approved with minor changes. We will add speakers to the event at 2:30 on Thursday and Friday. The flyer needs to be submitted to Melody Euler, DIC, for approval and posting on ACBL website and Unit website. Ellen Hessel requested that we consider putting two-session pairs games on future sectionals, and Ed Rawlinson said he's like to see the Wednesday afternoon Swiss back on the schedules. This discussion was tabled for a future meeting. Nancy asked that all the other flyers be reviewed by board members and changes submitted to Nancy.

Charity Games: On motion made by Karen Fillis, seconded by Rebecca Evans, and unanimously approved by the Board, Agudas Achim was voted as the recipient for charity game donations in 2024.

Next meeting: Monday March 11 at 2:30 at Agudas Achim.

Sharon Evans moved to adjourn the meeting, Roxana Tom seconded, and meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Fillis, Secretary

ACTION ITEMS:

All Board Members — Review flyers and email changes to Nancy.

Ed — recommended changes to Policy and Procedures Manual.

Roxana — update on Directory.

Nancy — Notify ACBL that Rosemary Kelley is 2025 Regional chairperson. Contact Rich Lampman about directing team games. Contact Freddie about any trailer leaks. Make changes on Free-play card template and have copies printed for Fiesta and New Braunfels prior to March 1 start date.

Karen — check out First Aid kit supplies. Submit Free-play list from 2022 Regional to Rosemary Kelley. Submit Awards Day flyer to Joe Ramirez for email blast.

Sharon — Drury contract to Rosemary Kelley before signed by Board representative.

Laurie — pickup 4 sets of boards from Freddie and deliver license sticker for trailer.