

Dallas Bridge Association
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors on March 8, 2010

The meeting was held at the home of Doug Tucker. Members present were Steve Birnbaum, Bob Butterfield, Leslie Conant, Tomi Fitzgerald, Susan Flick, David Greims, Charles Price, Doug Tucker and Executive Secretary Lynne Wood. Guest Chris Compton was also present. Carolyn Bradford was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Tomi Fitzgerald.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as modified.

The monthly financial reports showed cash balances of \$7,293 in the primary checking account, \$ 28,199 in the Fidelity account, and \$ 26, 501 in CD's at Viewpoint Bank. It was reported that Leslie Conant, Tomi Fitzgerald and Lynne Wood now have signature authority on the accounts at Viewpoint Bank and Bank of America.

It was decided to review budget numbers quarterly instead of monthly. Lynne Wood will try to find a better format for budget vs. actual reports.

Chris Compton addressed the Board about the March Tournament managed by the Bridge Academy of North Dallas. The 677 table turnout was much higher than normal. Among the factors contributing to the success were:

Smart marketing. Postcards and phone calls to newer players. Schedule developed and posted early on ACBL. Flyers distributed at nearby tournaments and in clubs. Scorecard ad.

Food. Meals between sessions and tasty snacks throughout.

Schedule. Early evening start time and daily morning sessions.

Volunteers. Many hard-working and dedicated volunteers.

Extras. Excellent speaker program, trophies and recognition for new players.

Experience. Both Donna and Chris Compton have a lot of experience in managing bridge functions.

Chris suggested that the unit investigate other sites which might provide better kitchen facilities, keeping in mind the importance of having a centralized location. He also suggested that tournament schedules be sent to Butch Campbell of ACBL as early as possible. Flyers may be given to local tournament directors for distribution at nearby tournaments. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for allowing BAND to have this sanction. Members of the Board congratulated Chris on their success and thanked him for his input.

Steve Birnbaum reported that membership declined this month to 1406. It was noted that most of this decline was a result of Austin college students not renewing memberships they were required to obtain for a course taken in January 2009.

Bob Butterfield stated that there will be a Tournament Committee meeting scheduled this week. The committee will try to finalize the schedule for the Labor Day Regional. It is planned to have flyers for the Regional available at the summer Nationals. A flyer for the May Sectional was sent to the District 16 website. Marion Gebhart will be asked to send it on to Butch Campbell for posting on the ACBL website.

Charles Price opened a discussion about the monthly unit games. Tomi Fitzgerald reported that Donna Compton agreed to have BAND host a unit game for players with 0 to 99 masterpoints. Dorsey's Bridge Studio will host the 0 -750 game and Valley View Bridge Club, the open game. Eligibility to play in the limited games will be determined by points reported in the previous month's ACBL Bulletin. The games will be run by the individual clubs who will retain any profits. The unit will continue to apply for sanctions, promote the games, and oversee game conditions.

It was noted that strata should be set in a game to ensure that there are at least 3 pairs in each direction for each stratification, so that masterpoint awards can be given in each. This should be done in the unit games.

David Greims reported that this summer's Bridge Camp will be advertised in a Richardson publication. Five weeks of color ads will cost \$ 982.50. Under an ACBL education program, ACBL may pay \$ 750 of this expense

and provide T-shirts, texts, and trophies. Dorsey will accept up to 40 students at the camp.

David Greims reported that new, double-leg card tables can be purchased for \$19.48 each, including shipping. The Board voted unanimously to purchase 100 tables for the unit at this price. David indicated that a major effort will be required to retrieve the tables from Fort Worth and uncrate and store them.

NAP dates for this fall were proposed as follows:

- October 2, Flight A at Valley View
- October 9, Flight B at Dorsey's
- October 16, Flight C at Bridge Academy.

Doug Tucker suggested that the dates for flights A and C be switched in order to permit players to try to qualify at a higher level if they do not qualify at their level. Steve Birnbaum will check on the dates to ensure that they do not interfere with holidays. Mark Bumgardner will be asked to check again with the club owners to ensure that the revised dates (switching A and C) are acceptable.

Tomi Fitzgerald requested that Board members consider who might be willing and able to report events at the various clubs for posting on the website. Marion Gebhardt is now in charge of the technical maintenance of the unit website, but needs input for posting events and accomplishments.

Charles Price reported that August 2 - 8 is STAC week. This information will be posted on the website.

Lynne Wood reported that the unit will sign a contract with Bank of America for use of the night depository. A stamp will be ordered to use on checks being deposited, and a key will be issued.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm, April 12, 2010, at the home of Susan Flick, 7900 Linksvew Drive, McKinney 75050.