

Minutes of Board Meeting Unit 361

Date: April 7, 2018

Location: Denver Metro Bridge Club

Time: 9:52 AM

Attendees: Margaret Devere, Wayne Eckerling, Rick Gardner, Alice Kinningham, Vard Nelson, Nancy Rassbach, Pam Root, Bob Stansbury
District 17 Representative: Jerry Ranney
Legal Counsel: Penny Coffman

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Gardner. He extended an official welcome to our new member, Alice Kinningham.

Minutes: Minutes from the March meeting were approved.

January Sectional Incident: A disciplinary committee hearing was convened on Saturday at the March Sectional. Based on the fact that there were no prior issues with the individual, probation was recommended and accepted by the ACBL.

Financial Reports: Due to Dan's illness, there was no financial report from the March Sectional. Rick will ensure that outstanding invoices are paid by Wednesday.

March Sectional Review: Table count was up 18 over last year, primarily due to attendance at the Friday night "Eight Is Enough." The board indicated a willingness to repeat this event at the July Sectional. It was noted that Shirley Miller did not show up in time to put out food, as she had agreed, and it was decided that Shirley should not be assigned duties that require her to take responsibility.

Action Items Review:

Rick Welcome letter for Regional has been completed.

Nancy/Margaret A discussion was held with regard to name tags. Margaret mentioned other companies that provide name tags with bridge-related logos. Margaret also described two other bridge novelties, both pens. Additionally, Steel Images will create name tags based on our artwork if we want to do that. It was decided to stay with Steel Images and the current name tag format, but to change the font so that it is easier to read. Margaret suggested Arial; she and Vard will review. A decision will be made at the next meeting as to whether to provide name tags as part of the new member packet, instead of when a person reaches life master.

Vard Noted problems with contacts for partnership. It was noted that a name is required for partnership and tournament chair when the tournament is scheduled,

several years in advance. Vard will ensure that he is receiving partnership emails prior to the Regional.

Regional Preparation:

Wayne discussed the current status of preparation for the Regional. Currently there have been 796 rooms booked, well over our commitment of just over 500. Wayne noted that in the future we will track the number of rooms booked each month so we can compare with the previous year.

Wayne, Jerry, and Vard did a walk-through of the hotel to determine locations to place additional signage. Vard acquired 7 24X36 white boards (for which he will be reimbursed) to be placed in strategic locations indicating where events are to be held and entries sold. Posters have been printed. Specific game locations will be written on the whiteboards as soon as they are determined, which is typically late on the previous day.

Supplies for the tournament will be delivered on Monday, with setup on Tuesday morning at 9. Jerry, Wayne, Vard, and Bob will assist with setup.

Wayne has arranged to have "quick" food items available between 6:15 and 7 Wednesday through Sunday.

For the ProAm, each player (both pro and am) will receive two \$5 coupons that can be used at the open bar or for snacks after the ProAm, or at any other time during the tournament. There was discussion about the current 5-point minimum requirement for Ams. It was agreed that the limit should remain in effect for this year, but in the future we may look at individual exceptions.

Five dollar coupons will be part of the registration packet as well as the Monday Swiss teams. Two dollar coupons will be handed out on other days to make up our financial obligation to the hotel.

There will be no restaurant discount deals. Instead, drawings will be held on multiple days for gift certificates from participating restaurants. Players can register for drawings at the same time and place as tournament registration.

Margaret is continuing to work on the first day's hard copy bulletin. Information will be added regarding restaurant drawings, coupon distribution, and availability of food before the evening session. Jerry will write an article about the GNTs. Wayne will write an article about the charity pairs. Wayne will identify the specific times at which coupons will be distributed and get that info to Margaret for the bulletin.

I/N Review: It was agreed that attendees at the I/N tournament April 28-29 will be given \$2 coupons for the July Sectional. Elly Larson is working with Paul Ossip at House of Cards to ensure that there is an open game on April 28. A special Pianola email will be sent to eligible members advertising the Sunday 0-10 game.

Mentor/Coaching Program:

Due to the startup delay, it was decided that the Unit will not sponsor an official mentoring program in 2018. It was suggested that we should work with Denver Metro and House of Cards to support their mentoring programs. It was recommended that we should use the remainder of this year to plan next year's program.

Bidding Box Refresh:

Scheduled for April 8 from 1 to 4 at Rick's condo event room.

Person of Record:

Penny Coffman has accepted this position.

Directory Hard Copy Status:

There are approximately 3 boxes left, after clubs picked up their supplies. Members who have boxes in their garage will bring them to the bidding box refresh to be put into Cowboy Storage. Additional copies can be printed as needed for printing cost only.

District 17 Report: D17 has rescinded its resignation from the Western Conference, since there is no longer a financial obligation. In the future the Western Conference will be responsible only for sponsoring STAC tournaments, in which D17 will participate. D17 will publish its own electronic publication and will not be part of the Western Conference Forum. Currently Jennifer O'Neill is the only candidate running for the D17 board from our Unit; others are encouraged to apply if interested.

Front Range Challenge: A few years ago Colorado Springs agreed to act as permanent host for the Front Range Challenge. Recently they have indicated a desire to withdraw from hosting the tournament, and possibly from the event itself. Rick will try to clarify the situation.

Action Items:

Rick Review possible changes for tournaments to shift from January to February and from March to April.

Margaret/Vard Review name tag font.

Vard Acquire Front Range Challenge trophy from Jim Calhoun, and have winner engraved for 2014.

Bob Update ACBL tournament registry to specify current responsible board members for partnership and tournament chair, to the extent that he can.

Alice Check contents of new member welcome packet.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2018, at 9:45 AM at Denver Metro Bridge. (Note: Moved to avoid conflict with Boulder Sectional in Longmont.)

Adjournment: 11:41 AM

Respectfully submitted,

NANCY RASSBACH
Secretary 2018
Unit 361